









Main

C4

1

.v8

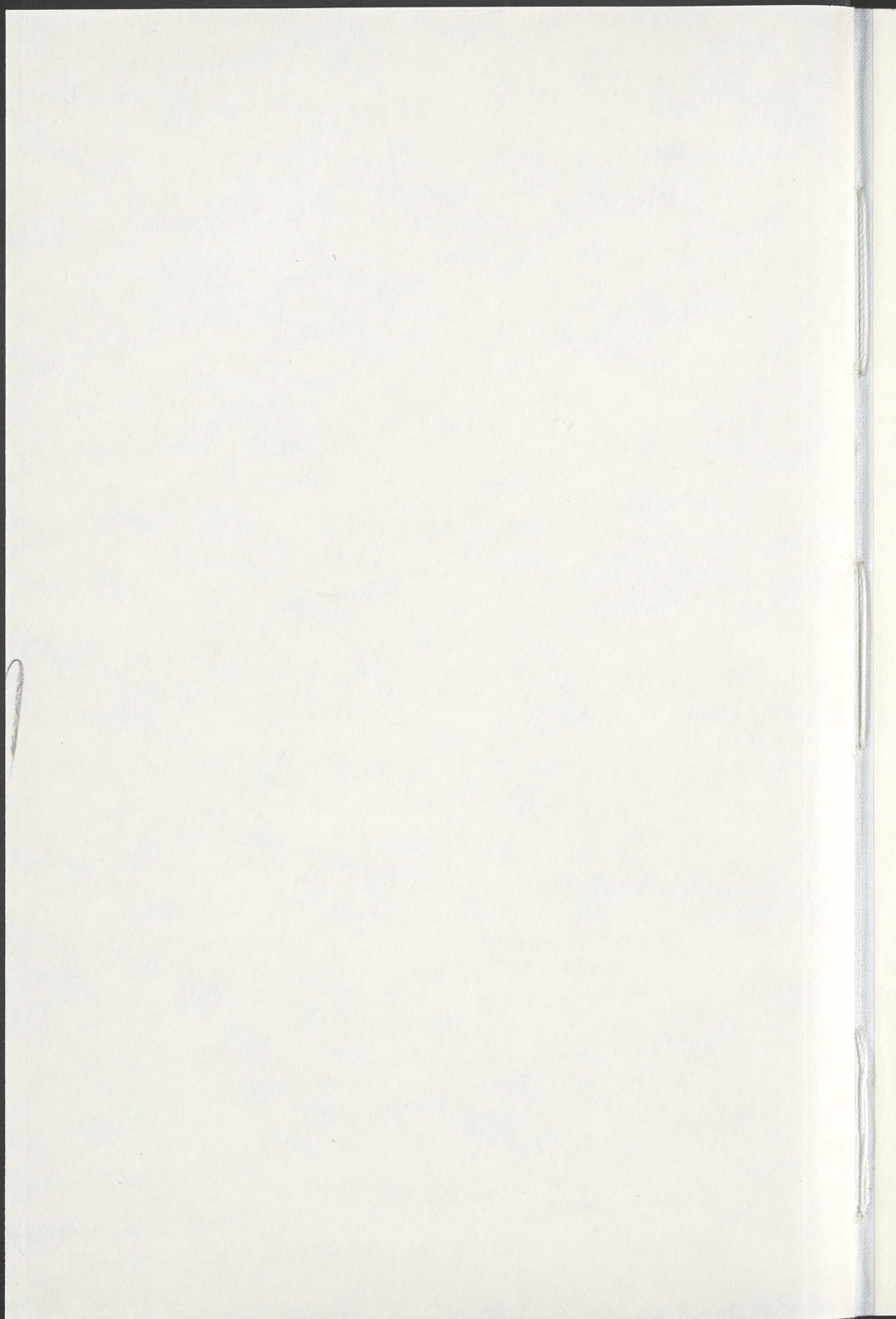
v. 45-46

2009-

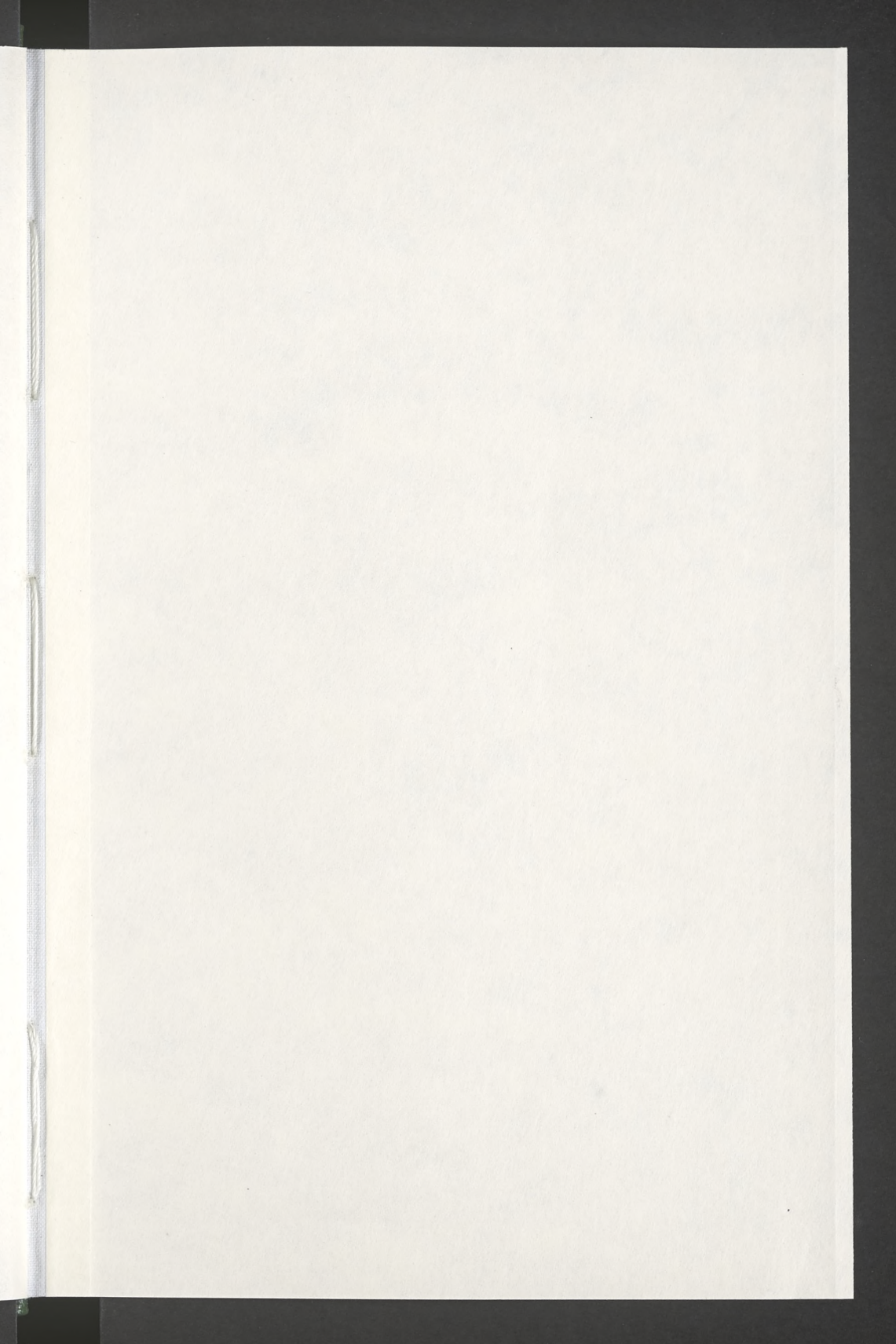
2010

PROPERTY OF  
THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA  
RICHMOND, VA

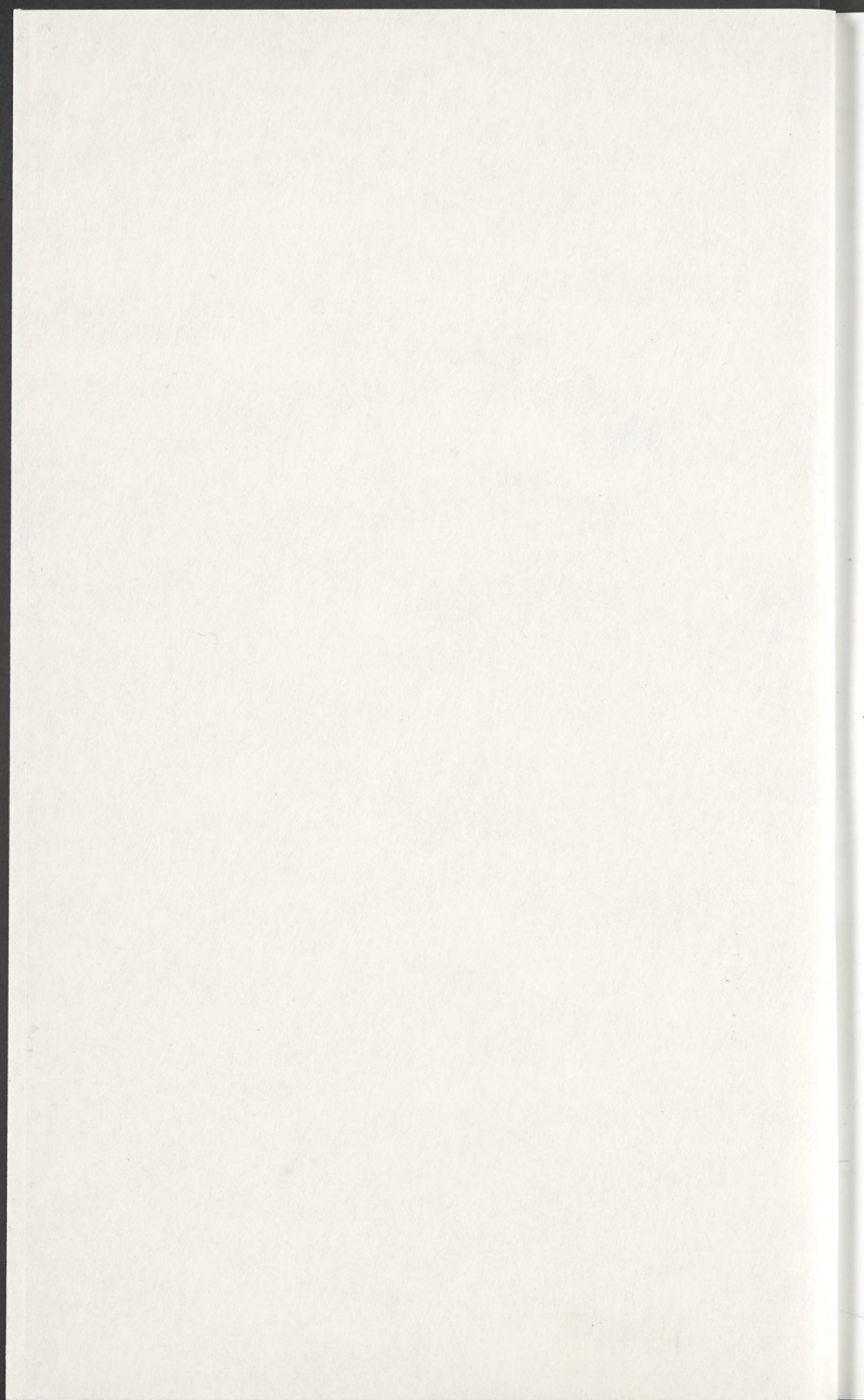










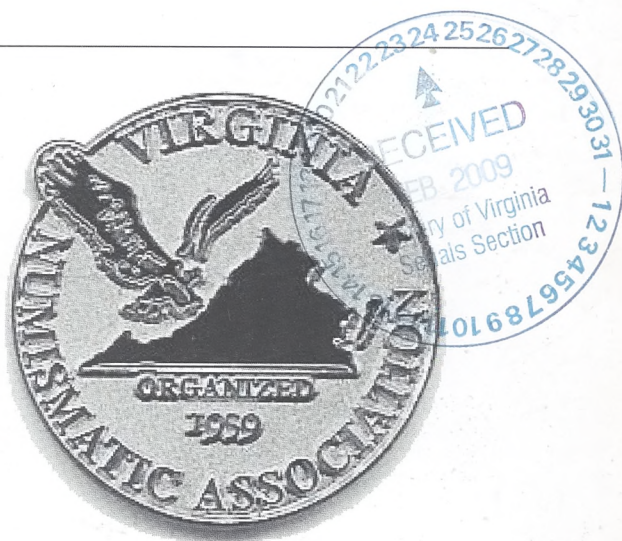






# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Winter, 2009*



Inside —

**VNA School Programs**  
**An Ultimate Type Set**  
*and more—*

W

# Why So Many Dealers and Collectors Consign and Sell to Smythe

- Top Dollar Paid on Direct Purchases
- Record Breaking Auction Prices
- Competitive Auction Commissions Rates
- Friendly, Personalized Service
- Impeccable References
- Expert Staff of Internationally-Recognized Specialists
- Generous Cash Advances, Flexible Terms



## Our Outstanding Team of Experts:

**Diana Herzog** (Autographs)  
**Stephen Goldsmith** (Stocks, Bonds, U.S. Coins)  
**Scott Lindquist** (U.S. Small Size, Nationals)  
**Bruce Smart** (World Banknotes)  
**Caleb Esterline** (Stocks & Bonds)

**Mark Anderson** (Banknotes)  
**Robert Litzenger** (Autographs)  
**Nirat Lertchitvikul** (U.S. & World Coins)  
**Tom Tesoriero** (Ancient & Foreign Coins)  
**Greg Cohen** (U.S. Coins)

## Consign Your Collection To Our Next Auction

Call **800-622-1880** or **212-943-1880** and ask for Stephen Goldsmith, Mark Anderson, Scott Lindquist or Caleb Esterline.



2 Rector Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10006-1844

TEL: 212-943-1880 TOLL FREE: 800-622-1880 FAX: 212-312-6370

E-MAIL: [info@smytheononline.com](mailto:info@smytheononline.com) WEBSITE: [smytheononline.com](http://smytheononline.com)

*We buy, sell, and auction the very best in Paper Money, Antique Stocks and Bonds, Coins, and Autographs*



# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 45, No. 1  
Winter, 2009

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Show Schedule.....  | 2  |
| Membership Applications.....  | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors.....                                       | 3  |
| Editor's Corner.....  | 4  |
| President's Letter.....   | 5  |
| Ancient Coin Collecting and<br>Trafficking..... <i>Jess Kilgore</i> ..... | 6  |
| School Program Proposals.....   |    |
| ..... <i>Richmond Coin Club</i> .....                                     | 10 |
| Two Ultimate Type Set Coins.....  |    |
| ..... <i>Mark Benvenuto</i> .....   | 11 |
| Announcement of 2009 VNA<br>Convention.....                               | 14 |
| Announcement of 2009 Blue Ridge<br>Numismatic Assn. Convention..          | 15 |
| VNA Clubs.....  | 16 |
| Money Store.....  | 24 |

## Show Schedule

**Feb 28-Mar 1 Salem,** Salem Coin Club Winter Show. American Legion Bldg., 710 Apperson Dr. Hrs: Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-3PM. Ph: 540-992-5331.

**Mar 14 Winchester,** Winchester Coin Club Show. Travel Lodge Motel, 160 Front Royal Pike. Hrs: 9:30AM-5PM. Winchester Coin Club. Ph: 540-535-7236.

**Apr 3-5 Weyers Cave,** Shenandoah Valley Coin and Stamp Show. Weyers Cave Community Center, 682 Weyers Cave Rd. Hrs: Fri. 12 noon-5PM, Sat. 10AM-5PM, Sun. 10AM-2PM. 540-849-9108. Email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

**Apr 24-26 Chantilly,** Dulles Coin & Currency Expo, Dulles Expo & Conference Center, 4368 Chantilly Shopping Center. Hrs. Fri.-Sat. 10AM-6PM, Sun. 10AM-4PM. Ph: 703-932-9568. Website: [www.DullesCoinExpo.com](http://www.DullesCoinExpo.com)

**May 29-30 Richmond,** Richmond Coin & Currency Show. Holiday Inn Central, 3207 N. Blvd, Exit 78, off I-95N/I-64E. U.S., Foreign, Ancient. Hrs: Fri. 12PM-6PM, Sat., 9AM-6PM. Ph: 804-651-2536. Email: [connie3798@comcast.net](mailto:connie3798@comcast.net) [www.richmond-coinclub.com](http://www.richmond-coinclub.com)

for updates, see the VNA website: <http://www.vnaonline.org>



### VNA Membership/Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family

☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime

☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
PO Box 16833  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues promptly! We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.





## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President (Director): John Koebert  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

(703) 435-0357  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash  
P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

email: cash2274@comcast.net

Editor and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-president: Bill Eckberg  
P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313

email: halfcent@mac.com

Incoming Editor and 2nd Vice President: Tom Kays

email: thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer (Director): John Kolos  
P.O. Box 3332, Richmond, VA 23228

email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore  
Mechanicsville, VA

email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart  
P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190

email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart  
Virginia Beach, VA

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batton  
PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford  
PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Emmett Yonce  
P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083

Director: Jim Owens  
Winchester, VA



## Editor's Corner

Bill Eckberg

Greetings, fellow Virginia Numismatists. Welcome to the winter issue of *The Virginia Numismatist*. It will be my last as your editor. I was always under the impression that as we get older, our careers were supposed to get less and less demanding. Alas, that has not been the case for me, and I simply no longer have the time to devote to the journal that it deserves. I have served as editor since the beginning of 2002, and I have genuinely enjoyed communicating with the VNA members and contributors and putting the issues together. It has truly been a labor of love.

Editing a numismatic journal like ours creates interesting challenges. Not the least of which is finding material to publish. Fortunately, the VNA is a rich source of knowledgeable numismatists and hobbyists who have been happy to send articles that have graced our journal. We are truly fortunate to have so many good people with coins to share.

I am delighted to tell you that Tom Kays, a respected expert on Virginia Colonial coins, will be taking over. Tom has published several pieces in our journal on coins found at Jamestown and other important early colonial sites that have given us significant insights into the daily life and work of the early settlers in our Commonwealth. I know he will raise the standards of our journal, and I have promised to help him in any ways that I can.

I'd also like to thank those who have served as VNA officers during my tenure. Many of them have published articles in our journal, and all of them have been supportive of whatever I have needed to put out the best *Virginia Numismatist* that I could. I would also like to thank those new officers who have volunteered their time to take the VNA into the future. Based on the results that I have seen over the past few months, I know we can expect great things of our club in the future.

Finally, and most importantly, I want to thank all of you for your support over these past 7+ years, especially those of you who have sent in pieces for publication. *The Virginia Numismatist* exists for you and because of you. It would be great for YOU to help Tom in this transition by sending him an article. His e-mail address appears on page 3.

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the 2009 VNA Convention and show. As I've done many times, I'd like to leave you with a picture of a recent acquisition.

Bill Eckberg





## President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

*This is a postscript to my last letter to you as President. When I agreed to accept a one-year extension to continue as your President, I did so knowing that I would continue as a viable contributor to the hobby. And although I still have a passion for collecting, economic conditions being what they are do not support my wants or my ability to continue as I have in the past. Many of you may be feeling a similar pinch.*

*So the winter doldrums are not the only plague to curtailing my collecting activities. It would appear that my wallet has zipped up tightly and my interest has had to be redirected to other less expensive endeavors. I will, during these trying times, keep a focus as best I can on any side streets I can turn down on the numismatic freeway, but most of them have a "Do Not Enter" sign posted at the entrance.*

*Thus I return home to my collection as it stands. The "Orphanage", as I call it, because it is quite frankly the home of many coins few would even want, is where I will be for the remainder of the year. I will continue my passion for collecting with those coins that surround me, and dream of better times to come.*

Sincerely,

*John Koebert*

### ORDER A VNA PIN

Introduced at 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention

Gold & Black with VNA Logo – 1" Diameter  
\$5.00 – Includes Postage & Handling

Send check payable to Virginia Numismatic Association with this order form to  
George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

Mail pin to: (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP





## THE CONTROVERSY OF ANCIENT COIN COLLECTING AND TRAFFICKING

By Jess W. Kilgore

I think it's appropriate to begin with a few words on why I've found my collecting focus to be ancients or more specifically Roman coins. For about 18 years, I've had a deep fascination with Roman history and for many years before that in archaeology. For me, the older the coin the better. It's very interesting to me that countless proud images of a Roman emperors have lain undisturbed in the ground to escape an onrushing barbarian horde or worse yet, a tax-collector. I look for unbroken, clear Latin inscriptions rather than the Greek used by Eastern provinces which surround fine portraits and images that rival modern coins in their artistic merit. Latin inscriptions that clearly reflect the origins of the English language and many others... images of buildings that still stand today... images of soldiers standing in stiff rank holding standards like armies in parade today.... Images of gods and goddesses that were once honored with grand temples and mighty columns that we can see reflected around us in U.S. monuments and buildings such as the Lincoln Memorial or Monticello.

Ancient coins can be found readily in many coin shops and coin shows in the United States. However, ancient coin collecting is a controversial topic that has been hotly debated. For many archaeologists, museum administrators and politicians, ancient coin collecting is a loss to a nation's heritage, history and the field of archaeology. One frustrated archaeologist writes of a site on a Turkish ridge-top within ancient Lycia, where an unnamed town once stood. The site is too remote to be guarded and has been pored over by treasure hunters with illegal metal detectors. The archaeologist had counted 129 looting pits at the time of his writing and stated he knew that whatever coins were found were trafficked to Western collector's hands. Numismatists have seriously fought to preserve ancient coin collecting as a hobby, but in some countries the fight has been futile. How does Italy feel about collecting of the coins issued by it's legendary empire? In the 1939 Act of the Custody of Artistic and Historic Objects, all coins found in Italy dating before 1500 are considered to be State property and must be reported to the Superintendent of the Arts. Whole regions of Italy such as Sicily, Lazio, Tuscany and Calabria are off limits to metal detecting. In Turkey, the 1973 Antiquities Act declares many objects including ancient coins to be property of the State, though a reward system does exist for discoveries. However to get a reward you should convince authorities that the coin discovery was accidental because treasure hunting is forbidden and those caught can be imprisoned for 2-5 years. Israel also is extremely strict. Anyone found searching for antiquities, even on private property, is liable to be imprisoned for a term of 3 years. French law allows metal detecting, but is extremely restrictive on it's use, making it very difficult to discover coins.

Munich, Germany and London, England are known as trafficking centers for ancient coins. Both countries have guidelines to follow concerning the discovery of ancient coins, but are likely to turn a blind eye to the collecting crowd. Britain



in particular has an extremely strong metal detecting lobbying presence that very vocally counters attempts by its government to place restrictions on their hobby. Germany will reward 50% of a horde's value if found on public land and 100% of value if found on private land. Though their law states discovered coins should be turned in to the State, a blind eye is paid toward collectors.

US code under title 19, Chapter 14, Section 2601 states that archaeological finds over 250 years old can be claimed by a nation who can prove it's origin in their country and prove it's cultural significance to their country. However the US, like a number of wealthy countries who harbor the most ancient coin collectors has been loathe to restrict the hobby. International treaties such as the 1970 UNESCO Convention on The Means of Prohibiting and Preventing Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property have attempted to compel governments to enter into agreements to enforce each other's cultural property laws. "Cultural property" is broadly defined under this convention as "property which, on religious or secular grounds, is specifically designated by each state as being of importance for archaeology, pre-history, history, literature, art or science" and falls into a number of broad categories, one of which is ancient coins. The 1995 UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects focuses on the role of courts in controlling illicit traffic in cultural property. In particular, it mandates the return of illegally exported cultural objects to the country of origin treating them as if they were stolen. Countries most likely to import artifacts have either refused to ratify these instruments or have only agreed to their provisions on a restricted basis. The US has adopted a watered-down version of the 1970 UNESCO Convention and US delegates refused to sign any provision of the 1995 UNIDROIT Convention. Italy attempted in recent years to enact the 1970 Convention and gain United States Cultural Advisory Committee cooperation in banning antiquity imports from their country, including ancient coins, but the US refused.

It has proved to be almost impossible for countries such as Italy and Turkey to retrieve ancient coins from countries they have been illicitly exported to. An exception was the case of Turkey vs. OKS Partners, which resulted in 1999 with the return of the "Emali horde" consisting of over 1,600 silver coins dating to about 453 BC. Fourteen of the coins were decadrachms in mint condition, of which only 27 total are known to exist. One such decadrachm sold for \$300,000 in 1974. The coins had been buried in an earthen jug near Emali, Turkey and found in 1984 by a Turkish prospector with a metal detector. For 10 years, Turkey fought to get the coins back from the American corporation who bought them from a trafficker in Munich and finally they were turned in to the Turkish embassy just 4 days before a Turkish trial was set to start.

But this was a rare concerted attempt by a country to have coins seized. The first hurdle for these countries is the fact that ancient coins are quite common. Roman coins for example were struck in 24 mint cities, literally reflecting every corner of the vast empire. From London to Barcelona, Milan to Sofia, Carthage to Istanbul... millions and millions of well-struck copper, bronze, silver and gold coins were hammered



by hand and delivered into circulation to eventually be lost or purposefully buried by ancient citizens of this incredibly advanced civilization. 365 million silver coins were minted by the 3<sup>rd</sup> century... such as this silver antoninianus of Trajan Decius I'll pass around. To put this in perspective, US mintage of dimes did not reach this quantity until 1962.

Another difficulty for disputing countries is the problem of proving an ancient coin to be cultural patrimony of any one modern nation state. Even if the coin was minted within a city of your country, to say that this particular coin is an important part of your country's cultural patrimony seems ludicrous when you consider how vast the Roman Empire was, encompassing much of Europe and the Middle East. Also it is impossible in most cases to assign "provenance" to a particular ancient coin, to give it the historical record that proves it was excavated in your country. A leading numismatist and archaeologist, Martin Beckman, has cited estimates that 80% of all ancient coins on the market today were dug up within the last 30 years. To distinguish these coins on the market with the countless number of coins traded since the Renaissance would be impossible. True coins with "provenance" were in the trays of famous numismatists and not affordable to the average collector.

Last July a significant victory was won by the island nation Cyprus when it succeeded in having the U.S. State Dept. impose restrictions on importation of ancient coins "of Cypriot types" issued before 330 AD. Cyprus accomplished this by implementing the 1970 UNESCO Convention authorizing import restrictions on artifacts that are "found in the ground" of a specific country. So Cyprus convinced the U.S. authorities that Cypriot ancient coins can only be found in Cyprus, but there has been evidence according to the ancient collecting lobby to prove otherwise.

Recently there has been quite a nasty debate between archaeologists such as Nathan Elkins with the University of Missouri and ancient coin lobby leaders such as Wayne Sayles, editor of "The Celator". Elkins says that when coins enter the market through suspect means – without provenance, without archaeological context – all useful information regarding its find circumstances are lost and part of history is irrevocably destroyed. Dr. Fleur Kemmers gives an example of how ancient coins help greatly to add to understanding the history of a site. Quadrants are very small copper Roman coins (64 of these to a silver denarius). An excavation in a Roman legionary fortress in the Netherlands yielded over 300 of these coins scattered about singly and not as a horde, all of the same exact type. A study of the associated finds showed that the quadrantes had arrived at the fortress en block, shortly after their time of minting in Rome. In this way it was possible to reconstruct a special consignment of coins to a legion posted in a frontier province, at the same time revealing a need for and use of the smallest denomination of coin possible, a clear indication of a monetized economy. Conclusions and insights Dr. Kemmers feels would have never been achieved had the coins been illegally dug up and sold separately. Wayne Sayles states that the numismatics hobby has existed long before the field of archaeology and adds immeasurably to the understanding and appreciation of history. Many archaeologists believe the only ancient coins that should be collected are those with



clearly documented provenance. But the ancients lobby asserts that its unrealistic to carry on collecting only coins with provenance as they are very hard to find and are much more expensive than other coins of the same type when they are found.

Should you or I worry about the future of ancient coin collecting and that the avenues for illicit coin trafficking stay open? I would say no. It is too immensely impractical for a foreign government to try to track ancient coins to a specific point of sale and prove cultural patrimony over it, then seek legal redress. Archaeologists must see in the end that it is completely unrealistic to expect ancient coin collectors to only purchase coins with provenance when such coins are so rare and expensive. However I think it's important that vital archaeological sites should be locations protected from looters of any kind. The hobby of collecting ancient coins allows the average person to own a piece of our past that brings us closer to understanding the beginning of our civilization.

---

---

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS PROPOSAL

**Sponsored in Full by The Richmond Coin Club**

**Program Leader: Jess Kilgore, Secretary and Webmaster for the Richmond Coin Club**

We have performed the Roman program for Pole Green and Laurel Meadow Elementary Schools in Mechanicsville and would like to expand our outreach and perform both programs to select schools in the Richmond area in 2009. Both program's lectures are geared for capturing children's interest with questions asked of the group to keep them attentive to what the speaker is saying and help make the subject even more interesting. The programs are delivered best in a cafeteria or auditorium environment in two groups making up grade level starting at 8:15 or so and ending by 10 AM. Laurel Meadow did this with their 3<sup>rd</sup> grade in two groups of 66 each, and it worked out beautifully. If you are interested in participating in one or both programs, please email Jess Kilgore at [jesskilgore@comcast.net](mailto:jesskilgore@comcast.net) or call his daytime phone#: 804-627-8075.

Thank you for your consideration of our dynamic programs that put history in the palm of a child's hand!

**Roman Coins Program: 45 minutes**

**For classes learning about Roman history.**

Mr. Kilgore will give a 10 minute lecture on how Roman coins were made, how they were buried for safekeeping most of the time as there were not banks like there are now, the dangers of losing wealth to barbarians/tax collectors and how they are found today through metal detecting. Each child is given an **actual Roman coin to keep** with the dirt still on it and a toothbrush to clean it with. Volunteers from



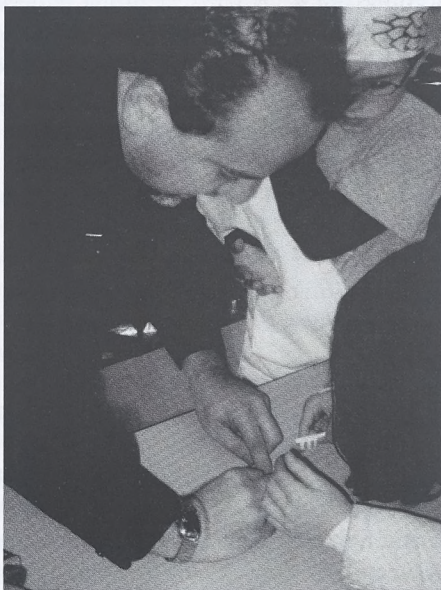


Table display of ancient relics and coins.

### History of U.S. Money Program: 45 Minutes

#### For classes learning about money.

Mr. Kilgore will give a 20-minute lecture on the history of money in the United States, focusing on the earliest forms of money used (Spanish, Dutch, British coins, *etc.*) and how the U.S. came to form its own currency and how it is minted/printed, followed by question and answer. Then children will be given an **actual Indian head cent and buffalo nickel to keep** by volunteers from our club. Children can then walk up to tables covered with coins and paper money going back hundreds of years, see how penny, dime, quarter, *etc.* have progressed over centuries and see unusual coins we no longer mint such as the half dime, three cent piece, two cent piece and half-penny.



the club will assist Mr. Kilgore in helping the children identify the coins they clean. Also there is a table of actual ancient relics for the children to examine like **oil lamps, toga pins, pottery, wax seals** and a display of very nice condition Roman coins to show different denominations like silver denarius, bronze sestertius, *etc.*

(Roman coins are very common. We are not alarmed at the very real possibility that a child may lose her coin the same day they get it. Romans minted many millions of coins every year for centuries. We hope the children will treasure their ancient coins and consider continuing a collection!)



## Two Ultimate Type Set Coins

Mark Benvenuto

There are actually quite a few series of United States coins that most collectors bypass, at least when it comes to collecting an entire date and mint mark run, or a date, mint mark, and major variety run. Two cent pieces probably qualify, as do three cent pieces -- both the silver and the nickel -- as well as the many series and denominations that were done prior in the 1830s, prior to the introduction of the Seated Liberty design. But of them all, two coins have to reign supreme: the flying eagle cent and the twenty cent piece.

It's probably obvious why both of these coins aren't heavily collected. There are too few years to make a collection of any size. And, very importantly, each has a screamingly expensive rarity in the mix.

It's been told many times that by the mid-1850s, the price of copper was such that the large one cent coins were too expensive to produce. The 1856 flying eagle cent was therefore something of a trial piece, to see if a smaller one cent piece would be accepted amongst the public. Apparently, the Mint administration decided that one or two trial pieces, or a few dozen trial pieces, were just not enough, so they pounded out an estimated 2,000. That's a lot of trials.

The story has also been repeated many times that a large number of the 1856 flying eagle cents were given to Congressmen for their opinion, and that many of the worn pieces that make it to the market today must be those that were then given to the "working girls" of the Washington DC social life. Thank God, the habit of Congressmen getting involved in situations that qualify as sex scandals has faded into the past... (sorry, I can't even write that





with a straight face). Okay, rather, let's say, what a surprise! Congressmen using government giveaways to lure potential mistresses.

Whatever the Congressmen did with their 1856 flying eagle cents, some of them survived in excellent shape. When one does cross the auction block, perhaps in something like a higher grade mint state, such as MS-65, the gavel falls in the zone of \$65,000. That's one expensive cent.

Price tags like this mean that us normal mortals will end up adding an 1857 or an 1858 version of the flying eagle to our own collection. Since these two dates are the only ones from which a person of modest means can choose, most of us don't bother getting both. Hence, the flying eagle cent becomes a type coin. Part with something to the tune of \$50 and you can land an 1857 or an 1858 in fine condition. While this isn't a perfect coin by any means, it can still be a good looking one.

Move up among the denominations, and eventually you will come to the twenty cent pieces. Don't flip the pages of any reference book too quickly, or you may miss it. The *Red Book*, more formally called, *A Guide Book of United States Coins*, bothers to give the twenty cent piece half a page of press, no more. Other reference books and price guides give it even less.



In the case of the twenty cent pieces, there are more years from which to choose, but even less when it comes to common dates. At least the flying eagle cent had two common ones. These silver pieces saw 1.15 million produced in 1875 out of the western branch Mint in San Francisco. That's the common version. There were also 133,290 produced that year from the Carson City, Nevada Mint, but most collectors know that putting the CC mint mark on any coin jacks the price way up. Proof positive of that is that the 1875 from



Philadelphia saw only 39,700 as its total, but in every single grade it costs less than the 1875-CC. Even though it is four times less common, it costs less.

By 1876, even the Mint realized that folks either didn't like or didn't want a twenty cent coin. The number that came out of the Philly facility dropped significantly below the previous year's already small total, and the 1876-CC made to the slim sum of 10,000 coins. Just about every reference indicates that most of these were melted, making the 1876-CC a major rarity today. For whatever reason, the Philadelphia Mint produced 350 proofs the next year, and 600 the year after that. Talk about not knowing when to quit! This last little decision on someone's part added two more years, and two more major rarities, to a series that was already rather hard to collect *in toto*. Ah well.

All this means for us today is that even if you attend several large shows, with numerous well-stocked dealers, the chances are the only twenty cent pieces you will see are some 1875-S pieces. If you have \$100 to spare, you can probably nab one in good, or maybe very good condition (if you're lucky). Drop the more handsome sum of \$400 and you may be able to land a piece up in almost uncirculated condition.

We mentioned the common factors between these two series were their short life, and their rare dates or dates and mint marks. The big difference among the two was that the flying eagle cent proved a point: people would accept a smaller copper cent coin. The twenty cent piece proved something of the reverse: that no one needed a silver coin between the dime and the quarter. Over a century later, it is us, the collectors, who remember the details of these two experiments, and add them to our collections when we can.





---

**VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

---

**51st ANNUAL CONVENTION,  
COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

**September 18-20, 2009  
Richmond, VA**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219  
I-64/I-95, Exit 75**

---

***170 Dealer Tables, 100 Dealers  
Free Admission & Free Appraisals  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits***

***Buying, selling, trading U.S. and world coins & currency,  
ancients, tokens, other numismatic items***

**Hosted by Richmond Coin Club**

**More information at  
[vnaonline.org](http://vnaonline.org)**

---

**Bourse Chair  
George Cash, P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
(804) 276-5430 – [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**





# **BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

**50<sup>th</sup> BRNA ANNIVERSARY**

**ANNUAL COIN SHOW AND CONVENTION**

**August 21-23, 2009**

**Northwest Georgia Trade Center  
2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd., Dalton, GA  
I-75, Exit 333**

**Over 200 tables**

**There will be a wide selection of speakers on various topics  
and collector club programs during the show.**

**Come out and meet President Lincoln**

**Free Admission - Free Appraisals - Buy - Sell - Trade**

**U.S., world coins, currency, ancients, tokens, other numismatic  
items**

**Raffle Tickets are available for door prizes (contact any BRNA  
officers or board member for further information)**

**1st prize - 1 oz Gold Coin - 2nd prize - 1/2 oz Gold Coin**

**3rd prize - 1/4 oz Gold Coin - 4th prize - 1/10 oz Gold Coin**

**5th prize - 1960 Proof Set**

---

**Bourse Chairman**

**Bob Hurst, P.O. Box 5506, Titusville, FL 32783  
(321) 427-6474 - [forvm@cfl.rr.com](mailto:forvm@cfl.rr.com)**

## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

**ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB.** Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

**BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB.** Meets on last Tuesday, at 6:00 pm to eat and 7:00 for meeting and auction, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. For information: Doug Seal P.O. Box 598 Crozet, VA. 22932.

---

**EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS.** Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

**LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Ron Waddell, PO Box 840, Forest, VA 24551.

---

**MONTICELLO COIN CLUB.** Meets on 2nd Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

**PIEDMONT COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

**RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webracceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

**RICHMOND COIN CLUB.** Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.freewebs.com/richmondcc](http://www.freewebs.com/richmondcc)

---

**SALEM COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

**SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

**TIDEWATER COIN CLUB.** Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall, 4809 Barteet St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Malcolm Gutterman, P.O. Box 1145, Norfolk, VA 23501.

---

**VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB.** Meetings are held on the third Monday at 7:30 PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact Willard H. Waples, 330 Marlboro Rd, Newport News, VA 23602.

---

**WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB.** Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

**WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.** Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---



## MERCURY NUMISMATICS

Appraisal/Investments

JOEL P. CHERRY  
Life Member ANA, VNA



Post Office Box 301, Merrifield, VA 22116  
(703) 876-9450  
[www.mercurycoin.com](http://www.mercurycoin.com)

**WEISS**

**NUMISMATICS**

**COLLECTABLE**

**SALES**

*Ancient, Medieval, Foreign*

POST OFFICE BOX 661  
HOPATCONG, NJ 07843

PHONE/FAX  
(973)389-0700

## MODERN COIN

212 E. Grace, Richmond, Va.

Store Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday  
10 AM - 3 PM Saturday

We buy U.S. Coins, Gold, Silver and Currency

(804) 643-0965

*Buy - Sell - Trade - Appraise*



## Acropolis Coins

495 High Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone (304) 296-2931

Open 10 am - 5 pm Monday - Saturday



#LM 3368

K.V. "Gus"  
Seremetis



## THE SENTRY BOX

World Coins

Box 6112

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Chris Maniscalco  
(757) 721-5331

## LIBERTY COINS

Authorized PCGS and NGC Dealer

Ronald J. Mirr

8503 Patterson Avenue, Suite 8  
Richmond, Virginia 23229  
(804) 741-8143

Always Buying  
Collections  
And Estates

All U.S. Coins  
and Paper Money



## Doug's Coins

Buy - Sell - Trade  
and Appraisals

P.O. Box 598  
Crozet, VA 22932

Phone  
(434) 823-8096



# Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

March 22, 2009

June 28, 2009

September 20, 2009

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Free Parking and Free Admission  
Snack Bar

Sponsored by:  
Carl Earl Ostiguy  
CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES  
P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763  
phone 410-379-5646 cell phone 443-623-7025  
E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:  
The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis  
[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:  
[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)

## BUYING AND SELLING US AND COLONIAL CURRENCY

- Continental and Colonial Currency
  - Fractional Currency
  - Confederate Currency
  - Large Size Type Notes
  - Small Size Type Notes

FREE comprehensive currency price list available upon request.

Your WANT LIST will receive my personal attention.

Professional APPRAISALS performed with discretion and expedience.

AUCTION REPRESENTATION services provided at competitive rates –  
I attend most major currency auctions and treat all of my customers with  
ardent professionalism.

### ***JAMES POLIS***

4501 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 306

Washington, D.C. 20008

(202) 363 – 6650

[jpolis7935@aol.com](mailto:jpolis7935@aol.com)

Member: *PCDA, SPMC, FCCB, ANA*

### **Carl Earl Ostiguy**

Dealer in Coins, Currency and Treasures

All Materials Kept in Bank Vaults

Buying & selling coins, currency and treasures

Appraisals and Auctions

By Appointment Only

Historic Savage Mill

P.O.Box 92, Savage, Maryland 20763

[ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

410-379-5646



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

(WE BUY IT ALL ... DISCREETLY.)



And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. (*More than 4,000 large cents in stock.*)

**NEW FOR DEALERS: The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!**

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) – Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement (*except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5*).



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

ANA LM 3559

NOW ACCEPTING

# SUBMISSIONS

FOR GRADING

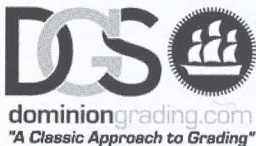
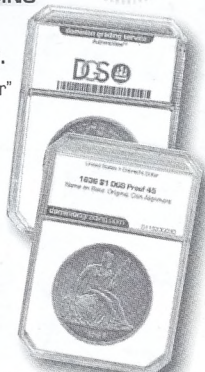


Send your coins in today for fast, affordable & accurate grading.

- **AuthentiVIEW™** All coins valued over \$100 and submitted above the "budget tier" will be imaged for our online Visual Population Report.
- **Dominion Grading Service Custom Pedigree**
- **Variety Research**
- **Signature Series**
- **Visual Population Report** a unique report that allows users to see images of all the coins we've graded. A great tool for buyers, collectors and researchers.

Submissions start as low as \$10 per coin.

- Online submission forms are available at [www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com).
- Contact us for submission details.



P.O. Box 2388  
Virginia Beach, VA 23450-2388  
Toll-free: (800) 277-2646  
Toll-free Fax: (888) 719-9739  
[info@dominiongrading.com](mailto:info@dominiongrading.com)  
[www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com)

Offer valid through December 31, 2008.

Include this coupon with your order to receive

**\$2 off per coin**  
on your submission.

VA Numismatist-7-08



VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

c/o John Koebert

P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Spring, 2009*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



I went back with my metal detector and found a few Civil War bullets. My second visit to the site produced the two best coins of the year...

## INSIDE:

Good Coins found in a Virginia Civil War Site

- by Robert Painter

Proof Barber Half Dollars Rarest of the Rare

- by Mark Benvenuto



# Why So Many Dealers and Collectors Consign and Sell to Smythe

- Top Dollar Paid on Direct Purchases
- Record Breaking Auction Prices
- Competitive Auction Commissions Rates
- Friendly, Personalized Service
- Impeccable References
- Expert Staff of Internationally-Recognized Specialists
- Generous Cash Advances, Flexible Terms



## Our Outstanding Team of Experts:

Diana Herzog (Autographs)  
 Stephen Goldsmith (Stocks, Bonds, U.S. Coins)  
 Scott Lindquist (U.S. Small Size, Nationals)  
 Bruce Smart (World Banknotes)  
 Caleb Esterline (Stocks & Bonds)

Mark Anderson (Banknotes)  
 Robert Litzenberger (Autographs)  
 Nirat Lertchitvikul (U.S. & World Coins)  
 Tom Tesoriero (Ancient & Foreign Coins)  
 Greg Cohen (U.S. Coins)

## Consign Your Collection To Our Next Auction

Call 800-622-1880 or 212-943-1880 and ask for Stephen Goldsmith, Mark Anderson, Scott Lindquist or Caleb Esterline.



2 Rector Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10006-1844

TEL: 212-943-1880 TOLL FREE: 800-622-1880 FAX: 212-312-6370

E-MAIL: [info@smytheononline.com](mailto:info@smytheononline.com) WEBSITE: [smytheononline.com](http://smytheononline.com)

We buy, sell, and auction the very best in Paper Money, Antique Stocks and Bonds, Coins, and Autographs



## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 45, No. 2  
Spring, 2009

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Show Schedule.....   | 2  |
| Membership Applications.....   | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors.....  | 3  |
| Editor's Corner.....   | 4  |
| Proof Barber Half Dollars, Rarest<br>of the Rare.....                      | 6  |
| America's Beautiful National Parks<br>Quarter Dollar Coin Act of 2008..... | 9  |
| Some Times a Relic Hunter finds a<br>Good Coin in a Civil War Site.....    | 11 |
| VNA Clubs.....   | 19 |
| Money Store.....   | 28 |

# Show Schedule

**RICHMOND COIN CLUB 5th ANNUAL SPRING COIN & CURRENCY SHOW** May 29th-30th, Friday 12-6, Saturday 9-6  
Holiday Inn Central, 3207 N. Boulevard, Richmond, VA  
Sponsored by the Richmond Coin Club, Connie Robertson,  
(804) 672-8321, Email: [connie3798@comcast.net](mailto:connie3798@comcast.net) 60+ Tables

**ANNANDALE COIN SHOW** Sat, Jun 13th, 2009 - Sun, Jun 14th, 2009  
Northern Virginia Community College - Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, Virginia 22003  
Contact: Paul Singleton PO Box 2056 Centreville, Virginia 20122  
Phone: 703-932-9568 Fax: 703-385-0059 [info@AnnandaleCoinShow](mailto:info@AnnandaleCoinShow)

for updates, see the VNA website: <http://www.freewebs.com/vna/>



## VNA Membership / Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family  
☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime  
☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
PO Box 16833  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues promptly! We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.





## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President (Director): John Koebert  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

(703) 435-0357  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash  
P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

email: cash2274@comcast.net

Incoming Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays  
P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313

email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer (Director): John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23228

email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore  
Mechanicsville, VA

email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart  
P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190

email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart  
Virginia Beach, VA

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batton  
PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford  
PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Emmett Yonce  
P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083

Director: Jim Owens  
Winchester, VA



## Editor's Corner

Tom Kays

Thank You Bill Eckberg! Bill retired from the job of VNA Newsletter Editor with the Winter 2009 edition. Now "VNA Editor Emeritus," after seven years of outstanding publication, Bill will still write for Penny-Wise, the official publication of the Early American Coppers (EAC) and serves as EAC Region 8 Chairman.

I am honored to serve the VNA in Bill's capacity, and find it a challenge to come up to speed on the layout software needed to maintain this superb periodical. I dabble in research into dug coins that circulated in early Virginia and hope to add some real dirt to the usual stories about collecting high grade/proof coins. Newspaper accounts of finding historic treasures, official archeological site reports, (those with complete numismatic data) and successful relic hunters (on private property with permission please) who unearth surprising old coins amongst artifacts across Virginia all interest me, and I hope will interest you too. I can tell you about Spanish money coming to the new world, Elizabethan silver in Jamestown, Georgian copper coins counterfeited at Williamsburg, forgotten "foreign" coin types lost locally in Virginia before the Revolution, the advent and loss of early Federal coinage, odd tokens that circulated during the Civil War, and the inception of the American coin collecting mania for such stuff. Numismatic treasures and worthwhile old buried coins are still being found today.

### ORDER A VNA PIN

Introduced at 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention

Gold & Black with VNA Logo – 1" Diameter  
\$5.00 – Includes Postage & Handling

Send check payable to Virginia Numismatic Association with this order form to  
George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

Mail pin to: (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP





## *Editor's Corner Continued*



Bob Painter, a new contributor, shares genuine tales of coin treasures found with pictures of the relics until recently at rest in Virginia soil.

Mark Benvenuto, a recurring contributor, continues his U.S. Type collecting series now with focus on attaining a PR-63 Barber Half Dollar, considered an attainable jewel of the series.

We missed that numismatic story you were thinking about sharing with *The Virginia Numismatist* on most any coin-related topic you may write about with enthusiasm, from auction transactions of unique proof patterns in platinum to an accounting of odd bits of foreign money rejected by coin-counting machines at the grocery. We want to feature something you collect with a passion. Your story would have come next in this issue, had you sent it. Our newsletter readers await the pleasure of your future contribution. Thank You.



## Proof Barber Half Dollars, Rarest of the Rare?

By Mark Benvenuto

There are plenty of stories about how the Barber design was not particularly popular when it was first released, and how that lack of popularity ultimately led to its replacement in 1916, after only twenty five years of use. Whether there is any truth to such tales, the legacy of the design now, over one hundred years after its first release for circulation in 1892, is generally more favorable. While critics and scholars generally don't speak of it as beautiful in the same way as they do the Liberty Walking halves, or the Saint-Gaudens double eagles, they don't deride it either. If a person is looking for the biggest and most attractive examples of the Barber design, there is no doubt that the proofs among the half dollars have to qualify.





A fact that may escape many of us today is that the United States Mint does have a long tradition of producing proof coinage, just not the same way it does today. Today, proofs sets are an annual affair, sold to anyone who wants them, and marketed as an item that can be a great gift for birthdays, newborns, and gifts for visiting friends. This has become a big phenomenon today, and has been well underway as far back as the 1950's when in 1957 over one million proof sets were issued. At the turn of the twentieth century, however, the coin collector base was far, far smaller than it is today. Proofs were made for those special few who had the money to put aside enough for one or more proof coins. These well-heeled collectors sometimes had an informal working relationship with the people in charge at the Mint, one that gave them some special perks.

For those of us who collect Barber halves today, we can wish nostalgically for this sort of privilege, or we can see what is available within various dealers' stocks. Each year, from 1892 up to and including the end of the series in 1915, the Philadelphia Mint produced proof half dollars. There were 1,245 of them that first year, and the total for proofs never again bounced over the one thousand mark. To be fair, it did get close in 1894 and 1900, with each of these years posting over 900 proofs. The lowest years were at the tail end of the series, in 1914 and 1915, with 380 and 450 respectively.

A three-fold difference in mintage totals might start one thinking that the 1914 (380 issued) is going to be a considerably more expensive proof half than the 1892 (1245 issued). The good news is that that isn't so. The bad news is the actual price is \$1,500 for a nice proof-63 1914 coin and just less than \$1000 for other dates. Before we do a bit of compare-and-contrast on prices, dates, and specific coins, a word might be in order on the rather odd grade of proof-63 (PF-63). Collectors who read any of the many articles on more modern United States coinage will know that there are plenty of cases today of proof coins being certified as PF-69 or even PF-70. That latter grade means a technically perfect coin. The former has some minor imperfection that many of us would never even spot. So what is a PF-63?

When it comes to early proof coins, we need to keep in mind that even though the coins were specially treated at the time of their minting, time has not been their ally. Over the course of a century, a proof piece may have been dropped, had something dropped on it, been cleaned in some way, or been stored improperly. All these unfortunate events combine to lower the condition of a proof coin. The end result is that most price listings have grades for the Barber half proofs of PF-66 down to PF-63. Some go higher, and others lower. But in general, you do not find a PF-70 column for such classic, proof coins. As mentioned, that \$1,500 price tag is a real hindrance to many collectors. Some of us never spend more than \$50 on a single coin. Others place even tougher restrictions on their



collecting. But if you are the type who has the means, or who has the patience to save up, you can get your hands on one of these wonderful rarities.



The good news in this situation is that most proofs sell for nearly the same price in PF-63 (they also all carry a \$2,500 tag in PF-64 and a \$5,000 tag in PF-65). That means something, if you stop to think about it for a moment. It means that there are few enough collectors of these proof Barber coins that the market has not yet had to adjust for the slightly less common dates versus the more common pieces.

Another way to look at the prices of these proofs is to compare them with the prices of the circulation strike versions, in grades such as MS-63, or MS-64, or MS-65. Another pleasant surprise awaits the collector here. Some of the circulation strikes are actually more expensive in the same numeric grade than their proof counterparts. There may be all sorts of reasons for this, dealing with



clarity of strike for a particular year, or survival rates, how many coins each year were spent, used and worn out but the end result for the collecting community today is some extremely good looking coins – the proofs – cost slightly less than circulation strike coins in comparable grade.

With this information under our belts, and enough money in our pocket, the next VNA show might be a good place for a collector on a mission to look and see if there is a proof Barber half to be had. The chances are slim that all twenty four dates made in proof will be in the same show at the same time (and the chances are probably slimmer that many of us will have a cool \$36K in our pocket to spend on a set of all 24 in PF-63!), but the hunt for your first proof Barber half should be incredible. And should the hunt result in success? Well, adding even one of these gorgeous pieces to a collection may very well be remembered as the moment when a crown jewel was captured.

---

---

## APOLOGIES

Eagle-eyed readers of *The Virginia Numismatist*, Winter, 2009 Edition may have noticed 24 pages in the Table of Contents yet only 20 pages of printed matter. A mix-up at the printer curtailed the last edition by three pages (of paid advertising!) Please accept our apologies and look for your advertisements in this issue. If we rerun your advertisement again, without a renewal fee, consider that we will err on the side of our advertisers as editorship changes.

---

---

## AMERICA'S BEAUTIFUL NATIONAL PARKS

### QUARTER DOLLAR COIN ACT OF 2008

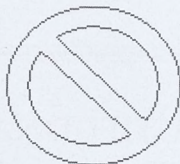
In December 2008, George Bush signed Public Law 110-456 authorizing 56 new designs of the Quarter Dollar, to be released five per year starting in 2010. The new series will be emblematic of a national park or other national site in each State, the District of Columbia, and each territory of the United States. The sites will be selected nine months after the Act was signed. The Treasury Secretary will make each selection after consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the governor or other chief executive of each State. Upon completion in 2020 the quarter dollar design reverts to the past image of President Washington on the obverse and Washington Crossing the Delaware River prior to the Battle of Trenton on the reverse. Quarters will be issued in the order in which each



national park site was established. In all likelihood Yellowstone National Park will be first as it was the first National Park established in 1872, despite being recently depicted (Old Faithful / Elements of the Interior Department Logo) on a commemorative dollar in 1999. Close to home, Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland (remember the 1937 Battle of Antietam 75th Anniversary Half Dollar with the Burnside Bridge on the reverse) and Rock Creek Park in the District of Columbia are early candidates having been established in 1890 and mentioned in the Bill. No mention has been made of a site for Virginia.

What national site in Virginia in your opinion, VNA Readers, would be the most appropriate in terms of historic or natural significance? A "national site" means any site under the supervision, management, or conservancy of the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or any similar department of agency of the Federal Government, including any national park, national monument, national battlefield, national military park, national historical park, national historic site, national lakeshore, seashore, recreation area, parkway, scenic river, or trail and any site in the National Wildlife Refuge System. The designs will be reviewed by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee. No head and shoulders portrait or bust of any person, living or dead, no portrait of a living person, and no outline of a State may be included in the design.

Interesting designs ideas are starting to be bandied about. What about the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel? If the twin spans are viewed from high above, it might look something like this.



Surprisingly this is the same quarter design you get if you fail to express an opinion. I'm sure you all have better ideas so send them to the VNA Newsletter Editor and we will publish a selection of your finest, in the opinion of the Officers of the VNA, and attempt to register them with the powers that be.

Editor's Note: how about a Manassas Battlefield Park quarter dollar, depicting a field piece of artillery (12-pounder) with caisson in the background and the Old Stone House to mark the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bull Run in 2011? If Virginia's turn for a quarter misses being issued by 2011, we could again claim the same scene to be the Second Battle of Bull Run with sesquicentennial anniversary in 2013.



## Sometimes a Relic Hunter Finds a Good Coin in a Virginia Civil War Site

By Robert Painter

Bob Painter  
unearthed  
this 1814  
Capped Bust  
Dime  
[John Reich  
(JR-3)] –  
Very Fine  
Condition as  
Dug



I have been metal detecting for over forty years. Most of that time, my adventures have been to Virginia locations where Civil War soldiers have either fought a battle (private lands) or lived in camp. The main object of my metal detecting these sites is to find a bullet, button, or belt buckle but considering the number of persons existing at one location, I sometimes find a coin. People always have and still do lose money. In 2008 my luck at finding great Civil War buttons and bullets seemed to diminish while instead I was finding more coins than I normally do. Even better than that, I found the best coin I have ever found; an 1814 United States dime in really great condition.

Consider the possibilities of Civil War sites for coins. Any coin left behind by a soldier will be 1865 or older. The Civil War period was fraught with coinage disparities and shortages where a variety of money was used by the population including cut Spanish silver. In addition, coins from all over the globe were used. Counterfeiting was evident as well. Another factor is that the military officers attempted to secure lodging in an existing building adding to the mix the possibility of some really old coins from the previous residents when considering we are discussing the Commonwealth of Virginia, these home sites can date into the 1700's. The officers usually had more money to lose than the typical soldier.

For a number of years I had been watching a farm that I knew had upon it a large Confederate soldier encampment. I also knew the farmer was resistant to relic hunters as he had some bad experiences in the past with some who left



holes in his fields of hay. Late in the year I noticed he had begun to clear with his bull dozer a small patch of woods adjacent to a building lot I owned. I was hoping he wouldn't mind someone metal detecting in this newly disturbed area especially since he would eventually grade and seed the area to expand his pasture.



Well! I jumped the fence and introduced myself. We talked about the weather, cows, and the economy until I turned the conversation to the Civil War. He gave me permission to detect in only the areas he was disturbing and asked me "not to dig in my grass" (his pasture). I agreed and the next evening I went back with my metal detector and found a few Civil War bullets. My second visit to the site produced the two best coins of the year. Based on other items I found or observed, I have determined at that particular spot, there existed an old house site that was occupied by elements of a Civil War period South Carolina command. Among the bullets and buttons at this combination camp and house site, I was fortunate to have excavated the dime and a half cent. A month later, at



another Orange County Virginia Confederate camp, I lucked into a spot that had been missed by past relic hunters.



**Privately Owned Civil War site in Virginia that produced old coins amid rocks, and underbrush – Note: Teknetics T-2 Metal Detector at upper right**

At that site I uncovered three buttons and five coins. I can say with confidence the last person who held these coins was a Civil War soldier wearing a grey uniform. Metal detecting in the back country of Virginia is for me the most rewarding hobby a person can pursue. And, since I am also a coin collector, this hobby sometimes rewards me with a wonderful coin that has been enriched with the history of the Civil War. In total for 2008, I recovered from the ground the 1814 dime, an 1851 Half Dime (Fine+ condition), 1756 Half Real (holed), five worn-out large cents including a 1798, and an 1809 U.S. Half Cent (Fine+ condition).

**Editor's Note: The Fredericksburg Relic Hunters Association (FRHA) meets the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Battlefield Restaurant, in Fredericksburg Virginia. The club's purpose is to preserve American History by locating, identifying, and preserving Civil War and earlier artifacts and to share our finds and knowledge with one another. Bob Painter is currently the club's President.**





Bob Painter's 2008 Civil War Era Recoveries

Fleam (Blood Letting Device) Unusual Minnie Ball (South Carolina), and Uniform Buttons including a one piece Diplomatic Corps Official Button, Eagle "V" (Regiment of Voltigeurs) Vest/Cuff Button, Script "I" (CSA Infantry) Coat Button, Ordinance Cuff Button, and other artifacts and Coins (as described above).





---

**VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

---

**51st ANNUAL CONVENTION,  
COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

**September 18-20, 2009  
Richmond, VA**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219  
I-64/I-95, Exit 75**

---

***170 Dealer Tables, 100 Dealers  
Free Admission & Free Appraisals  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits***

***Buying, selling, trading U.S. and world coins & currency,  
ancients, tokens, other numismatic items***

**Hosted by Richmond Coin Club**

**More information at  
[vnaonline.org](http://vnaonline.org)**

---

**Bourse Chair  
George Cash, P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
(804) 276-5430 – [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**



## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VNA NEWSLETTER!

LET THE CELEBRATION BEGIN!

In the Summer issue we will reprint Volume 1, No. 1 of our original newsletter

### *the halfpenny*

As luck would have it, very the first story was about how the VNA came into being one summer evening back in July 1959...



Please send in your stories about collecting GOLD coins for our GOLDEN Anniversary issue of the

Summer 2009 VNA Newsletter

Please also send in your reminiscences about the good old days of collecting coins back in 1959!





# **BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

**50<sup>th</sup> BRNA ANNIVERSARY**

**ANNUAL COIN SHOW AND CONVENTION**

**August 21-23, 2009**

**Northwest Georgia Trade Center  
2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd., Dalton, GA  
I-75, Exit 333**

**Over 200 tables**

**There will be a wide selection of speakers on various topics  
and collector club programs during the show.**

**Come out and meet President Lincoln**

**Free Admission - Free Appraisals - Buy - Sell - Trade**

**U.S., world coins, currency, ancients, tokens, other numismatic  
items**

**Raffle Tickets are available for door prizes (contact any BRNA  
officers or board member for further information)**

**1st prize - 1 oz Gold Coin - 2nd prize - 1/2 oz Gold Coin**

**3rd prize - 1/4 oz Gold Coin - 4th prize - 1/10 oz Gold Coin**

**5th prize - 1960 Proof Set**

---

**Bourse Chairman**

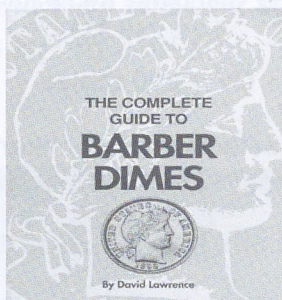
**Bob Hurst, P.O. Box 5506, Titusville, FL 32783  
(321) 427-6474 - [forvm@cfl.rr.com](mailto:forvm@cfl.rr.com)**



## Stella Coin News Adds Long Awaited Barber Dime Book to Library

Renowned Reference is the 8th Book to be added to the Stella Coin News Site. Access is free!

StellaCoinNews.com – Stella Coin News (SCN) is excited to announce their latest online reference book, *The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes*. Originally published in 1991 by late author, David Lawrence, the ground-breaking reference is now available to all collectors free of charge for their personal use. This rare book has been out of print for some time and *The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes* will be useful to entire numismatic community. You will find an in-depth analysis and die variety study on this series, as well as relative rarity rankings. We encourage added comments and updated information on this series. The following reference books are now available on the SCN web site to all users:



- The Complete Guide to Buffalo Nickels, 3rd edition by David Lange
- The Complete Guide to Mercury Dimes, by David Lange
- The Complete Guide to Walking Liberty Half Dollars, by Bruce Fox
- Tales from the Bourse by David Lawrence Feigenbaum
- The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars, by Randy Wiley & Bill Bugert
- The Complete Guide to Washington Quarters, by John Feigenbaum
- The Complete Guide to Franklin Half Dollars, by Rick Tomaska
- The Complete Guide to Barber Quarters (coming soon)
- The Complete Guide to Barber Halves (coming soon)
- The Complete Guide to Certified Barber Coinage (coming soon)
- Hobo Nickel Book (coming soon)

### About StellaCoinNews.com

Stella Coin News was launched in 2008 as a resource to publish industry news, press releases and research on all manner of numismatic topics. There are currently nine reference books available on SCN. Future plans for SCN is to get other authors to contribute their books as well. As publishers of the Stella Coin News site, we encourage as much participation as possible to make this a community forum.



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on last Tuesday, at 6:00 pm to eat and 7:00 for meeting and auction, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. For information: Doug Seal P.O. Box 598 Crozet, VA. 22932.

---

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS. Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Ron Waddell, PO Box 840, Forest, VA 24551.

---

MONTICELLO COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webracceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.freewebs.com/richmondcc](http://www.freewebs.com/richmondcc)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall # 4809 on Barteau St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471.

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meetings are held on the third Monday at 7:30 PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact Willard H. Waples, 330 Marlboro Rd, Newport News, VA 23602.

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1st Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---





**dominiongrading.com**

## Dominion Grading Service Certifies & Grades Rare Gold

Virginia Beach, VA. The graders at Dominion Grading Service were very excited to receive some high powered submissions lately, including five numismatic gold rarities. These rarities, and their final grades are:

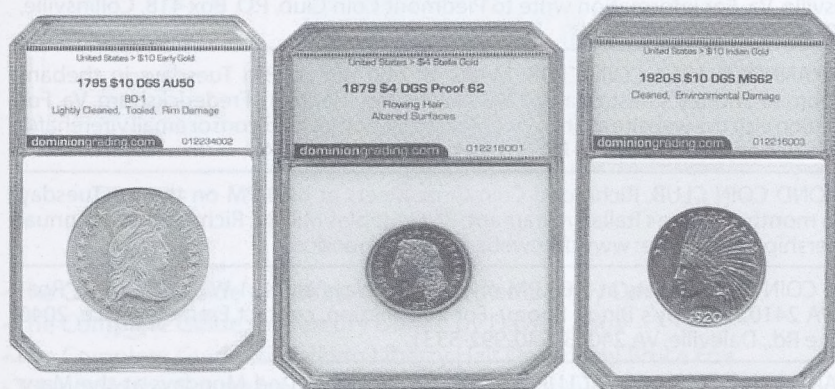
1795 \$10 DGS AU50 (Lightly Cleaned, Tooled, Rim Damage)

1879 Flowing Hair \$4 DGS Proof 62 (Altered Surfaces)

1920-S \$10 DGS MS62 (Cleaned, Environmental Damage)

1795 \$5 Small Eagle DGS AU50 (Altered Surfaces, Tooled)

1921 \$20 DGS AU53 (Reverse Scratches)



Senior grader Mike Ellis says "The more coins we get out there in DGS holders the more the numismatic community is learning to appreciate the value we offer. All five of these coins are rare and valuable, albeit some with minor problems and cleaning." Ellis continues, "We feel that collectors need to know the degree of severity of such problems, as well as the specific problems – so they can make an informed and accurate determination of value. When clients submit these kinds of coins for authentication and grading, we know we are with a value over \$100. Grading is conservative and accurate and problem coins (cleaned, scratch, etc.) are certified with description and a grade listed on the holder. Submission fees start as low as \$10.

Dominion Grading Service, PO Box 2388, Virginia Beach, VA  
23450-2388 Toll Free: 1-800-277-2646 Fax: 888-719-9739

[www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com) email: [info@dominiongrading.com](mailto:info@dominiongrading.com)

Contact [Kim.Ludwig@dominiongrading.com](mailto:Kim.Ludwig@dominiongrading.com) to request high resolution images.



Buy - Sell - Trade - Appraise



## Acropolis Coins

495 High Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone (304) 296-2931

Open 10 am - 5 pm Monday - Saturday



#LM 3368

K.V. "Gus"  
Seremetis



## THE SENTRY BOX

World Coins

Box 6112

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Chris Maniscalco  
(757) 721-5331

## LIBERTY COINS

Authorized PCGS and NGC Dealer

Ronald J. Mirr

8503 Patterson Avenue, Suite 8

Richmond, Virginia 23229

(804) 741-8143

Always Buying  
Collections  
And Estates

All U.S. Coins  
and Paper Money



## Doug's Coins

Buy - Sell - Trade  
and Appraisals

P.O. Box 598  
Crozet, VA 22932

Phone  
(434) 823-8096



## Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

June 28, 2009

September 30, 2009

November 30, 2009

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Free Parking and Free Admission  
Snack Bar

Sponsored by:  
Carl Earl Ostiguy  
CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES  
P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763  
phone 410-379-5646 cell phone 443-623-7025  
E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:  
The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis  
[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:  
[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)



**MERCURY NUMISMATICS**

Appraisal/Investments



JOEL P. CHERRY  
Life Member ANA, VNA

Post Office Box 301, Merrifield, VA 22116

(703) 876-9450

[www.mercurycoin.com](http://www.mercurycoin.com)

**WEISS**

**NUMISMATICS**

**COLLECTABLE**

**SALES**

**Ancient, Medieval, Foreign**

**POST OFFICE BOX 661**

**PHONE/FAX**

**HOPATCONG, NJ 07843**

**(973)389-0700**

**MODERN COIN**

**212 E. Grace, Richmond, Va.**

**Store Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday**

**10 AM - 3 PM Saturday**

**We buy U.S. Coins, Gold, Silver and  
Currency**

**(804) 643-0965**



## BUYING AND SELLING US AND COLONIAL CURRENCY

- Continental and Colonial Currency
  - Fractional Currency
  - Confederate Currency
  - Large Size Type Notes
  - Small Size Type Notes

FREE comprehensive currency price list available upon request.

Your WANT LIST will receive my personal attention.

Professional APPRAISALS performed with discretion and expedience.

AUCTION REPRESENTATION services provided at competitive rates –  
I attend most major currency auctions and treat all of my customers with  
ardent professionalism.

### ***JAMES POLIS***

4501 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 306

Washington, D.C. 20008

(202) 363 – 6650

[jpolis7935@aol.com](mailto:jpolis7935@aol.com)

Member: *PCDA, SPMC, FCCB, ANA*

### **Carl Earl Ostiguy**

Dealer in Coins, Currency and Treasures

All Materials Kept in Bank Vaults

Buying & selling coins, currency and treasures

Appraisals and Auctions

By Appointment Only

Historic Savage Mill

P.O. Box 92, Savage, Maryland 20763

[ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

410-379-5646



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak**

## Largest Inventory of Certified Small Cents through Nickels!



Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynn Skrabalak  
LM5925



*Knowledge. Integrity. Responsibility.*

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591





NEWLY PUBLISHED

## THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR:

Historical Notes and Trial List of Varieties

- 60 pages : 5" x 8" : paper covers : over 175 B&W images
- detailed, illustrated history of the Southern Cross of Honor
- 14 varieties cataloged with enlarged illustrations
- 7 reproduction Crosses illustrated and discussed
- Certificates of Eligibility: the 4 types illustrated

Auction Report; Recipients of 1st Crosses in Athens and Atlanta; More

- \$20.00 + \$1.50 Postage (Dealer Inquiries Invited) -

Peter Bertram, PO Box 451421, Atlanta, GA 31145-1421

*peterbatl@aol.com*

## **VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK NOTES FOR SALE**

**EMAIL YOUR WANT LIST TO  
jameslbecknerjr@gmail.com**

**VNA L0093,  
ANA LM-5273, SPMC LM 325**



## Member Want List

### Obsolete Currency

-----

1. Bank of Howardsville, Howardsville, VA  
Haxby #VA-105  
Jones & Littlefield #BH-25
2. Bank of Scottsville, Scottsville, VA  
Haxby #VA-215  
Jones & Littlefield #BS-15
3. Pine Plains Bank, Pine Plains, NY  
Haxby #NY-2215
4. Stissing Bank, Pine Plains, NY  
Haxby #NY-2220

### National Bank Notes

-----

1. Stissing National Bank, Pine Plains, NY  
Charter #981
2. Esmont National Bank, Esmont, VA  
Charter #8003
3. Scottsville National Bank, Scottsville, VA  
Charter #5725

### Foreign Banknotes & Coins

-----

1. Greek gold coins of 1800's and 1900's
2. Albanian Gold coins of 1900's
3. Greek WW II Partisan notes denominated in "OKA"

Alec A. Pandaleon, III  
ANA Life Member #LM-1198301  
SPMC Life Member #LM-370  
Virginia Numismatic Association #1701  
Telephone: 845-266-9800  
Email: [AAP3RD@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:AAP3RD@HOTMAIL.COM)





## THE MONEY \$TORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Coveseville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, PO Box 840, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@cs.com.

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

(WE BUY IT ALL ... DISCREETLY.)



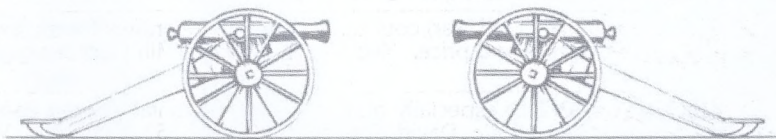
And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. (*More than 4,000 large cents in stock.*)

**NEW FOR DEALERS:** The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) – Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement (*except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5*).



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

ANA LM 3559



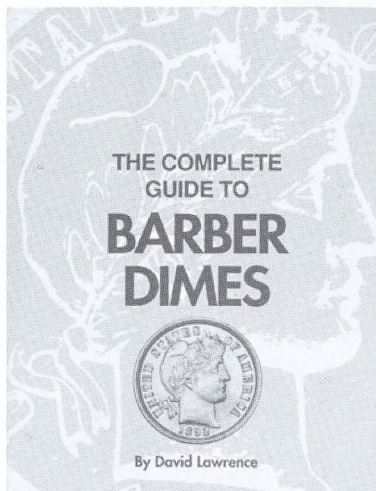
# Stella Coin News Adds Long Awaited Barber Dime Book to Library

Renowned Reference is the 8th Book to be added to the

Stella Coin News Site.

Access is free!

StellaCoinNews.com – Stella Coin News (SCN) is excited to announce their latest online reference book, The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes. Originally published in 1991 by late author, David Lawrence, the ground-breaking reference is now available to all collectors free of charge for their personal use. This rare book has been out of print for some time and The Complete Guide to Barber Dimes will be useful to entire numismatic community. You will find an in-depth analysis and die variety study on this series, as well as relative rarity rankings.



VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Koebert  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Summer, 2009*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



INSIDE:

- \* **You Never Know Who You Will Meet at a Coin Show**  
By George Cash
- \* **What Grade Can You Get For \$100? Going For the  
Best Possible Proof Franklin Half Dollar**  
By Mark Benvenuto
- \* **The HalfPenny - Volume 1, Number 1**



# Why So Many Dealers and Collectors Consign and Sell to Smythe

- Top Dollar Paid on Direct Purchases
- Record Breaking Auction Prices
- Competitive Auction Commissions Rates
- Friendly, Personalized Service
- Impeccable References
- Expert Staff of Internationally-Recognized Specialists
- Generous Cash Advances, Flexible Terms



## Our Outstanding Team of Experts:

**Diana Herzog** (Autographs)

**Stephen Goldsmith** (Stocks, Bonds, U.S. Coins)

**Scott Lindquist** (U.S. Small Size, Nationals)

**Bruce Smart** (World Banknotes)

**Caleb Esterline** (Stocks & Bonds)

**Mark Anderson** (Banknotes)

**Robert Litzemberger** (Autographs)

**Nirat Lertchitvikul** (U.S. & World Coins)

**Tom Tesoriero** (Ancient & Foreign Coins)

**Greg Cohen** (U.S. Coins)

## Consign Your Collection To Our Next Auction

Call 800-622-1880 or 212-943-1880 and ask for Stephen Goldsmith, Mark Anderson, Scott Lindquist or Caleb Esterline.



2 Rector Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10006-1844

TEL: 212-943-1880 TOLL FREE: 800-622-1880 FAX: 212-312-6370

E-MAIL: [info@smytheononline.com](mailto:info@smytheononline.com) WEBSITE: [smytheononline.com](http://smytheononline.com)

*We buy, sell, and auction the very best in Paper Money, Antique Stocks and Bonds, Coins, and Autographs*



# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 45, No. 3  
Summer 2009

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Show Schedule.....   | 2  |
| Membership Application.....  | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors.....  | 3  |
| President's Message.....   | 4  |
| 51st VNA Convention Update.....  | 6  |
| VNA Speakers Bureau.....   | 7  |
| Election of VNA Directors.....   | 9  |
| You Never Know Who You Will Meet<br>at a Coin Show by George Cash.....   | 10 |
| What Grade can You get for \$100 - Go-<br>ing for the Best Possible Proof Franklin<br>Half Dollar by Mark Benvenuto..... | 11 |
| The HALFPENNY Vol 1, No 1.....   | 14 |
| The Old Coin Gallery.....  | 18 |
| VNA Clubs.....   | 25 |
| Money Store.....   | 32 |



# Show Schedule

**CHARLOTTESVILLE SEMI-ANNUAL COIN SHOW** September 12th,  
Saturday 9-5 Elks Lodge, 389 Elk Dr. Charlottesville, VA

**51st ANNUAL VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION  
AND COIN SHOW** September 18th-20th, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 10-5  
The Greater Richmond Convention Center 403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA

**51st ANNUAL NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION COIN SHOW  
AND CONVENTION** October 2nd - 4th, Hickory Metro Convention Center,  
Hickory, NC - Exit 125, I-40

**VIRGINIA BEACH COIN SHOW** October 10th-11th  
Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th St. Virginia Beach, VA

For updates, see the VNA website: <http://www.vnaonline.org>



## VNA Membership / Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family  
☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime  
☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
PO Box 16833  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues promptly! We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: John Koebert  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

(703) 435-0357  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash  
P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

email: cash2274@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays  
P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313

email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore  
Mechanicsville, VA

email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart  
P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190

email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart  
Virginia Beach, VA

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batton  
PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford  
PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Jim Owens  
213 Millwood Ave, Winchester, VA 22601

Director: Emmett Yonce  
P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083





## *President's Letter*

John Koebert

I remember that day in 1959 like it was yesterday. My father came home from work one March evening. I was playing with a couple of my neighbors when he came up to us and said "Look Johnny, they changed the penny". He handed me the bright, new shiny cent and I said, "No, they didn't. It looks the same to me." He said, "Turn it over". And there I saw a brand new Lincoln Memorial, replacing whatever was there before, I couldn't remember what exactly. My most cavalier response to this was, "Oh, that's...great...Dad". I think I shrugged my shoulders a little too, which added to the most casual response ever to a major significant change in America's numismatic history.

My two friends, however, could not wait to see the new coin. To my amazement, they nearly grabbed the coin away from me for a better look. Then one of them asked my father, "Can I have it?" Surprised, my dad asked why and my friend said, "I collect pennies". My father's response was something I have never forgotten, word for word for fifty years: "Well...I'd like to think I'm a collector too of fives, tens and twenties, but I haven't been able to hold onto them long enough to call them a collection." But my friends would not relent. One ran next door and returned with what looked like a red book and a blue one that folded out in three parts. Inside the folder were several holes, most filled with pennies, all corresponding to a date. The red book listed each one of them with a corresponding value.

**WAIT A MINUTE... THERE'S MONEY TO BE HAD HERE!!!**

Since that day, I've been a coin collector. Described more completely, I've been everything from a casual collector to a serious numismatist. I've gone through several collections, some becoming investments. I even used one to buy my house. Today, I am completely satisfied in collecting early copper cents and half cents. I've truly found my home in numismatics because I become elated (beyond reason in some cases) when I acquire a new coin and experience total remorse when I have to sell one. There have even been times that I've bought back a coin that I sold because "I missed it". Unbelievable..... In my own personal feelings, coin collecting has been nearly a lifetime of passionate devotion. One that will continue until it's time to leave. And on that day, I will remember as I have all these years, that evening in March, 1959, when it all began.

## Editor's Corner

Tom Kays

Happy Golden Anniversary! In July, 1959 a 49-star U.S. Flag briefly debuted in Philadelphia, and quickly disappeared as Hawaii achieved statehood, too. Minimum wage was \$0.75 per hour and a gallon of gas was \$0.29. In asking for stories about coin collecting from fifty years ago, everyone remembered golden stories about coin collecting in their childhood. They recall when a cent would buy big candy, a dime, a comic book and you could find decent old coins in circulation, but key dates almost never. Barber coins were mostly gone but worn standing liberty quarters, mercury dimes and buffalo nickels were common. Silver dollars could be had for the asking at face value from banks, but few kids could tie up a whole dollar for long. Back then it often took an enthusiastic friend or relative to get young'uns interested in old coins, not for spending but for saving, and beyond piggybanks but as a one-a-year series or with mint marks aplenty. It still works that way today. In July 1959 a group of coin collecting enthusiasts got together for the first time to promote and sponsor regional coin shows that would entice big time coin dealers to come together in a local venue to serve Virginia's numismatic community. The rest is history. Read all about it inside this issue. Thank You VNA Newsletter Readership for your patience as the Newsletter Editor learns new software for e-publishing. Thus far no one has expressed any opinion regarding Virginia State Park Quarter Dollar designs raised in the last issue.

### ORDER A VNA PIN

Introduced at 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention

Gold & Black with VNA Logo – 1" Diameter  
\$5.00 – Includes Postage & Handling

Send check payable to Virginia Numismatic Association with this order form to  
George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

Mail pin to: (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP





# 2009 VNA Convention Update

By George Cash, Convention Coordinator

The September 18-20, 2009, Virginia Numismatic Association Convention in Richmond is now just 60 days away as I write this update. We will maintain the same high standards that we had last year with a few extra goodies thrown in. Like last year, we will have a banquet on Friday night open to anyone (details forthcoming). An auction is again scheduled for Saturday night—those wishing to submit items to be auctioned should contact Alan Blair at 800-689-5602 or [alanblair@verizon.net](mailto:alanblair@verizon.net). We will have our scouting certification program again and hope to break our record of 56 scouts participating. A VNA Board of Directors meeting and general membership meeting will be held during the convention. As of this writing, we have dealers coming from 12 states and expect more.

This year we will have 8-passenger golf carts to ferry folks inside the convention center. The ANA's exhibit "Money of the Civil War" will be on display all three days of the convention. There will be a vendor on hand who will take pictures of your coins and download them onto a CD for your permanent record. We will also have Reed's Gold Mine from North Carolina. For a \$2.00 fee you can pan for gold just as the prospectors did in the 1800's.

Your board of directors, the Richmond Coin Club, and the convention center staff have been hard at work. With your participation we will have an even better convention

than last year. You can never have too many volunteers. If you would like to help at this year's convention, please contact George Cash at 804-276-5430 or cash2274@comcast.net.

For convention location and time, please see the full-page announcement elsewhere in this issue. Updated information will be posted on the VNA website at vnaonline.org.

Looking forward to seeing you in September!

## **SPEAKERS WANTED !**

### ***CALLING ALL VNA MEMBERS***

The Board of Directors of your VNA would like to establish a list of people who are willing to present a numismatic program on their topic of interest to member clubs. Once we establish a speakers bureau it will be possible for a club looking for a speaker to contact the speakers bureau to see who would be available for the particular time slot. As we get more refined, we can list the topics available so the clubs could zero in on a particular subject of interest. This list of speakers/topics can be posted on our VNA website and in our quarterly magazine.

To get this program off to a good start we are asking anyone who would like to be listed as a speaker or would like to recommend someone they think would be willing to participate to please fill out the following form and return it to George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236. As speakers sign up, their topics will be listed on the VNA web site. Speakers do not have to be VNA members.



# VNA Speakers Bureau Registration (PLEASE PRINT)

Speaker's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

(1) Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) Topic: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

If you are recommending someone, please also provide information about yourself below:

Submitted by (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Send form by SEPTEMBER 8th to:

George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

# Election of VNA Directors

VNA needs to fill out its Board of Directors by electing four people for the position of Director to serve on the Board for two-year terms starting in September 2009.

The nominated candidates are as follows:

\* Robert Ayres, Louisa, VA: Coin dealer; member of Monticello-Blue Ridge, Richmond, and Shenandoah Coin Clubs.

\* Gregg Coburn, Bealeton, VA: President of the Culpeper Coin Club; member of Warrenton and Fredericksburg Coin Clubs.

\* Chris Maniscalco, Virginia Beach, VA: President of Tidewater Coin Club; long-time dealer in world coins.

\* George Watson, Springfield, VA: Long-time coin dealer; member of Alexandria Coin Club.

---

## Ballot for the VNA Board of Directors AT-LARGE-DIRECTORS: (Vote for four)

- ☐ Robert Ayres
- ☐ Gregg Coburn
- ☐ Christopher Maniscalco
- ☐ George Watson

Please mail completed ballots by *SEPT 10, 2009* to:

Jess Kilgore, VNA Secretary

7102 Foxbernie Dr.

Mechanicsville, VA 23111



## **You Never Know Who You Will Meet at a Coin Show**

### **By George Cash**

At a recent coin show in Williamsburg, a customer stopped at my table to look at Mercury dimes. He seemed uncertain if he wanted any dimes, so I asked if I could be of any help. He informed me that he had just completed a set he had been working on and was debating if he should start collecting Mercury dimes or Ben Franklin halves. I told him that to my way of thinking it was a no-brainer—Franklin halves. My reasoning was that Franklins are an easier and less costly set to complete. I went on to give some personal reasons for favoring Franklins. The obverse of the coin shows Ben Franklin, whose mother-in-law's maiden name was Cash, my surname. The reverse of the coin depicts the Liberty Bell. On the Liberty Bell there are two names, Pass and Stow. I told him that I was a direct descendant of Stow, so I was very partial to the Franklin set. He had a look of amazement on his face. He then informed me that he was a direct descendant of Pass, the other name on the Liberty Bell. You can imagine our surprise at learning that our ancestors worked together on the Liberty Bell. The next morning his father came in and introduced himself. You never know who you will meet at a coin show. By the way, the son decided to start a Franklin collection.

**Liberty Bell Quote: "PASS and STOW - PHILADa"**





## What Grade Can You Get For \$100? Going For the Best Possible Proof Franklin Half Dollar

By Mark Benvenuto

If you are the type of collector who just detests any coin that has been “slabbed” – encapsulated in plastic and graded by third party grading service experts – you probably should skip this article. If you enjoy firm contact with your coins, or if you enjoy medieval or hammered coinage, get a kick out of the ancients of the Roman Empire, or become weak at the knees when it comes to odd and curious money, the very idea of buying a hunk of plastic that just happens to have a coin stuck in the center of it is obviously not for you. But if you are the collector type who wants to be sure you have an MS-68 versus and MS-67 – or better yet an MS-69 or PF-69 – then encapsulated coins become a must. After all, there can be big price differences for little grade differences when you are considering the best of the best, grade-



wise. That's certainly the case for proof Franklin Half Dollars. So how do we get to a great grade without going over a fixed price – say, \$100? Let's find out.

The Franklin Halves remain poor relations among half dollars, especially when compared to the Walking Liberty Halves, but Franklin Half Dollars boast a choice set of proof coins. Proof Franklins were made in Philadelphia from 1950 until the end of the series in 1963. What makes proof Franklins different from many other halves are their mintage totals. Franklin proofs span mintages that qualify as rather low – the 1950 proof has just over fifty thousand examples – to very high – six of the last seven years enjoy one million to three million proof coins each. These latter dates' massive emission qualify as the first half dollar proof coins that can be called "common." Anyone can get their hands on a proof Franklin for only \$20. That's if they want something like proof-64. But what about going for the absolute best?

Look at the standard monthly price sheets for proof Franklin Half Dollars and you find that there are often three variations of the high mint state grades listed. There is Proof-67 (PF-67), Proof with Cameo Finish (PF-67C) and Proof with Deep Cameo Finish (PF-67DC). The same distinctions are present for PF-68 and PF-69 (few price sheets list the Franklins in PF-70). These differences describe how the coin's finish looks. The deep cameo usually will cost the most, and coins listed with neither DC or C will cost the least.

With that bit of detail in place, let's take a look at the prices of the three most common proof Franklins, the 1961, the 1962, and the 1963. All saw proof mintages of over 3 million coins. And if that's not enough, it's really amazing to note that, at least as this is being written, a 1962 PF-68 Franklin costs \$65. Its cameo version will run \$275, and the deep cameo price launches to \$800. Let's focus on the plain PF-68 for a moment at \$65.

There are few other silver proof coins from a completed series that ring in at that lofty grade for such a low price. If you have never closely beheld a PF-68 coin, try it. Perhaps at the next VNA sponsored show. Even without the "cameo" or "deep cameo" title tacked on, a PF-68 Franklin Half is a thing of beauty. Plus, the \$65 price tag is



another thing of beauty.

Beyond the 1962 Franklin in proof, try either the 1960 or the 1961. The 1960 has a proof mintage of 1.6 million, which may make it less common than the later three years, with their 3-million-plus proof tallies, but the low price makes it absolutely wonderful: \$75 in PF-68 (again, with no cameo or deep cameo). The 1961 isn't too ugly either when it comes to this PR-68 grade: \$90. That makes three choices of truly high end half dollars, all of which are going to look fantastic, each for less than \$100.

Now, curiously, the 1963 hasn't been mentioned yet. That's because it actually costs a bit more as an MS-68 coin: \$125 to be exact. The reason probably has more to do with population reports of certified coins than anything else. For those unfamiliar with them, the population reports from grading services such as PCGS or NGC serve as something of an informal guide for prices. They are the tallies for how many coins have received a certain grade. They can't ever be a perfect measure, as no one knows how many times a single coin has been removed from a slab and re-submitted, but they're pretty good. Indications are that the 1963 is a tad harder to find in MS-68, hence the slightly higher price. But still, that price, though slightly higher than the \$100 we're aiming for, is not too bad at all.

Believe it or not, both the 1956 and 1957 proof Franklin half can be had at or just below \$100 in PF-68. The 1957 was made in proof with a total count of just over 1.2 million coins, and the 1956 only rings up to 669 thousand. Compared to mintages in the millions we have seen thus far, that seems almost rare.

It definitely appears that \$100 will take a person far when it comes to proof Franklin Half Dollars. We've focused on a single grade, but it won't take much searching to find just how much that \$100 will get you if you step down a grade to PF-67's or PF-66's. Now, simply looking at prices may not automatically make Franklins the fifty cent pieces of your dreams, but they certainly do make them worthy of a good, long look. Type coins like this truly are the top of the heap. Is it worth \$100 to add one to your collection?



# the halfpenny

## News and Views of the Virginia Numismatic Association

VOL. 1

MARCH - 1960

NO. 1

### V. N. A. - THE BEGINNINGS

One evening, in July of 1959, ten people, members of the Tidewater Coin Club of Norfolk, met to discuss the possibilities of having a state coin convention - to be held seven weeks later. A short time to plan, work, and hope, despite a financial shoe - string, that they could make a go of it.

During these weeks, meetings were held frequently, and filtering into the talks were the words - state-wide organization, wait and see, good idea, nothing really concrete -- but the glimmer of a LIGHT. In the letter that went out to the clubs in Virginia announcing the convention, was the sentence - a meeting is planned for all officers of all clubs, during the convention, to discuss setting up an organization for the next convention. This meeting was held, and from the great enthusiasm among the club officers, was born THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION. The VNA was formed for the purpose of improving the standards of numismatics in Virginia and to hold annual conventions.

The question arises - What can the VNA do for me, as an individual collector? The ANA, MANA, and our local clubs exist - what do we need with a state-wide organization? It is not difficult to answer this question.

In the past ten years many thousands have come into our hobby field. Many hundreds of these thousands flounder through the lack of knowledge and comradeship. Local clubs try to fill the void, but in a few months of meetings the new collector stagnates. He sees the same coins, over and over --, offered for sale, barter, or auction. He needs fresh coins - fresh ideas - new faces.

The ANA endeavors, through annual conventions and publications, try to bring thousands of collectors together, Unfortunately, only a few of us have the time or the money to attend these far-off national conventions.

(continued - page 2)

Page 2

V. N. A. - THE BEGINNINGS (cont. from page 1)

The M. A. N. A. came into being in 1953 - "for the particular purpose of bringing the numismatists of the Middle Atlantic area into closer relation with one another for the mutual improvement through the interchange of ideas and discussions, especially at annual conventions." Attendance at M. A. N. A. conventions have been growing each year. However - the same time/money problem remains.

The VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is especially designed to accomplish what most VIRGINIA collectors want. An annual convention, held conveniently, almost in their own back yard and attended by their friends and neighbors. Also, another important event, a publication for the VIRGINIA area collectors - "the halfpenny" a publication for Virginia collectors - about Virginia collectors - and by Virginia collectors.

That is what the V. N. A. and it's boosters can do for you and your club -- BUT, exactly what it will do for you depends upon you and YOUR SUPPORT.

Officers elected for 1960 are:

|                |                       |                         |
|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| President      | Ernest M. Seneca, Jr. | Tidewater Coin Club     |
| Vice President | Hugh Hawkins          | Monticello Coin Club    |
| Secretary      | Bernard Drexler       | Tidewater Coin Club     |
| Treasurer      | Howard Eggert         | Tidewater Coin Club     |
| Sgt. at Arms   | Bernard Littlepage    | Va. Peninsula Coin Club |

The Board of Govenors is:

|               |                     |                |                        |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| A.A. McGinnis | Richmond Coin Club  | Eldridge Jones | Wash. Numis. Society   |
| James Hutson  | Tidewater Coin Club | G.D. Kasey     | Martinsville Coin Club |
| L. C. Ivey    | Danville Coin Club  | Anna E. Rife   | N. Va. Numis. Club     |
| Robert Myers  | Va. Peninsula Club  |                |                        |

It was decided that dues for each MEMBER CLUB would be Five dollars annually, and dues for individuals would be: Sponsor member - \$2.00; Donor member - \$5.00.

the editors

---

ATTENTION CLUB SECRETARIES

"the halfpenny" will be happy to print CLUB NEWS articles which are of general interest. Type all items and address them to: Editors, 7 Selden Arcade, Norfolk 10, Va.

---

If you have a NUMISMATIC article, we will PUBLISH IT FREE.

"the halfpenny" will accept, for publication, articles, of interest, such as Pet Peeves, Projects, or rare "finds". All copy must be typed and may be edited.

---



# the halfpenny

News and Views of the  
Virginia Numismatic Association

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Circulation -  
This issue - 800

THE EDITORS  
Bernard Drexler  
7147 Midfield St., Norfolk 5, Va.  
or H.L. Lohman  
7 Selden Arcade, Norfolk 10, Va.

## ADVERTISING RATES AND POLICY

Forms close first of month. Minors must furnish parents' consent. Rates are for one insertion only. Cash or check must accompany ad order. RATES: Full Page - \$25.00 Half Page - \$13.00, Quarter Page - \$7.00, Classified Ads - 5¢ per word, \$1.00 min. Classified advertisers must count each word, number, group, abbreviation, name, and address. "the halfpenny" liability for any error in an ad shall not exceed the error's size in proportion to the entire ad percentage-wise. Advertisers are expected to refund the full purchase price on an unsatisfactory item, ordered by the reader, provided that the reader return such item within three days after receipt of goods. "the halfpenny" cannot accept the responsibility for the fulfillment of the obligations of the advertisers or the readers. "the halfpenny" reserves the right to reject or edit any ad. For additional policy - contact the editors.

## TIDEWATER COIN CLUB ELECTION

An election of officers was held during the regular meeting of the Tidewater Coin Club on January 27th, 1960. Mr. Roger Cobb, the past vice president, will serve as the president during 1960. Mr. Cobb is well known in numismatic circles. Mr. Howard Eggert was elected to the office of vice president after serving as secretary for the past two years. Mr. George Flemming will occupy the office of secretary - treasurer for the coming year. A gala installation banquet is to be held at the Jamestown Club in Norfolk on March 9th.  
h.l.l.

VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
COIN CONVENTION  
SATURDAY, SEPT. 10th, 1960

DUNES MOTOR HOTEL  
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

# CLUB NEWS

## VIRGINIA PENINSULA CLUB BANQUET

Seventy-one members and guest attended the Va. Peninsula Coin Club banquet, held on Jan. 18. R.E. Blount acted as M.C. and the following officers were installed for 1960.

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| President        | Bernard Littlepage |
| Vice President   | B. G. Bosworth     |
| Secretary-Treas. | M. H. Reynolds     |

Guest speaker of the evening was Bernard Drexler, of the Tidewater Coin Club, who spoke on "The Care and Feeding of Junior Coin Collectors". This fitted in perfectly with the club's aim to start a Junior Club. Mr. Drexler's experiences as supervisor of the Junior Coin Club of Norfolk proved to be highly entertaining and educational. Exhibits at this meeting were outstanding.

The following received award plaques:

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| B.D. Littlepage | Best in Show  |
| C.D. Mitchell   | U.S. Coins    |
| R.E. Blount     | Misc. Coins   |
| C.D. Mitchell   | Foreign Coins |
| A. Jordan       | U.S. Currency |
| R. Mitchell     | Jr. Exhibit   |

It was heart-warming to a true Numismatist to note that not one modern coin was on exhibit.  
B.D. Littlepage

## MARTINSVILLE COIN CLUB ELECTION

Mr. Charles E. Reed, of Martinsville, was elected President, for 1960, of the coin club in that city. Mr. Reed, as charter president, reports that he is actively engaged in brining the club membership to 100 members before his term expires.



## COIN AND STAMP SUPPLIES

We believe we have one of the largest stocks of coin and stamp supplies in Virginia. Coins we have, too; but the better ones stay with us such a short while we hardly have time to get acquainted.

Here are some of our coin supplies:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| Whitman coin folders .....                                     | .35        |
| Whitman Guide Books .....                                      | 1.75       |
| Whitman Handbooks .....  | 1.00       |
| Popular Albums (National) .....                                | .75 - 1.50 |
| National (Wayte-Raymond) .....                                 | .80        |
| National pages, large .....                                    | 1.50       |
| National binder, small .....                                   | 2.00       |
| National binder, large .....                                   | 2.75       |
| Hollander - - a complete line                                  |            |
| Library of Coins - - a complete line                           |            |
| Manila envelopes (2"x 2") per 100 .....                        | .35        |
| Letocraft metal coin boxes .....                               | 2.95       |
| Letocraft plastic roll tubes .....                             | .12        |
| Friedberg "Paper Money of the U.S." ....                       | 12.50      |
| Friedberg "Gold Coins of the World" ....                       | 15.00      |
| Criswell's "Confederate Currency" .....                        | 7.50       |
| CCC Coin Cleaner .....   | 1.00       |
| Patriotic Civil War Tokens .....                               | 1.00       |
| Hawaiian Coins, Tokens, and Paper Money.                       | 1.00       |
| United States Pattern, Experimental,<br>and Trial Pieces ..... | 10.00      |

A few Gold Coins:

|                          |       |                        |       |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| \$ 1.00 V.F. 1850 ....   | 22.50 | \$ 5.00 V.F. 1882 .... | 17.50 |
| \$ 2 1/2 Ex.F. 1853 .... | 22.50 | \$ 5.00 V.F. 1895 .... | 17.50 |
| \$ 2 1/2 Unc. 1912 ....  | 17.50 | \$ 5.00 Unc. 1909 D .. | 20.00 |
| \$ 2 1/2 V.F. 1914 ....  | 17.50 | 10.00 Ex.F. 1894 ....  | 30.00 |
| 10.00 Ex.F. 1907 ....    | 30.00 | 20.00 V.F. 1922 ....   | 65.00 |

# The Magic Shop

446 GRANBY STREET - NORFOLK 10, VIRGINIA

Please add 25¢ for postage and handling on mail orders under \$10.



# THE OLD COIN GALLERY

A NEW FEATURE OF INTERESTING COINS WITH CAPTIONS - SUBMITTED BY VNA READERSHIP AND PRINTED AS SPACE ALLOWS

TWO PORTRAITS OF KING LOUIS THE FIFTEENTH OF FRANCE



1720 A (Paris) "young" Louis XV Livre de la Compagnie des Indes - a John Law era issue from the year in which bullion prices peaked and France's financial bubble burst



1731 H (La Rochelle) "older" Louis XV 12 Sols issued by France for the Windward Islands (Isle du Vent) of a type that circulated in colonial Virginia - This particular coin's provenance goes back to the Guttag Brothers of New York



News of Interest to Virginia Numismatists

New coin shop opens in Manassas, Va.

---

---

## **CLASSIC COINS & COLLECTIBLES**

**WE BUY COINS & CIVIL WAR ITEMS**

**9810 Liberia, Avenue  
Manassas Virginia 20110**

Across from Longhorn Steakhouse

**Hours 10 to 6 Tuesday Thru Saturday**

**Call Mike or Ron at 703 330-3747**

---

---



1831 Half Dollar - One of a small cache of eight half dollars with dates spanning 1803 to 1831 found together with a portrait four reales at an undisclosed hut site near Fredericksburg, Virginia





---

**VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

---

**51st ANNUAL CONVENTION,  
COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

**September 18-20, 2009  
Richmond, VA**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219  
I-64/I-95, Exit 75**

---

***170 Dealer Tables, 100 Dealers  
Free Admission & Free Appraisals  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits***

***Buying, selling, trading U.S. and world coins & currency,  
ancients, tokens, other numismatic items***

**Hosted by Richmond Coin Club**

**More information at  
[vnaonline.org](http://vnaonline.org)**

---

**Bourse Chair  
George Cash, P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
(804) 276-5430 – [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**



NORTH CAROLINA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

51st Annual  
Coin Show and Convention

October 2-4, 2009

Hickory Metro Convention Center  
Hickory, North Carolina  
Exit 125, I-40

Buy, Sell, Trade  
Coins, Currency, Medals  
Educational Exhibits  
Educational Programs  
YN Program

Bourse Chairman  
Mike Griffin  
griffthechief@yahoo.com  
704-289-7500

Exhibits Chairman  
Scot Arney  
sarney@snyders-han.com  
828-261-5459





# **BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

## **50<sup>th</sup> BRNA ANNIVERSARY**

### **ANNUAL COIN SHOW AND CONVENTION**

**August 21-23, 2009**

**Northwest Georgia Trade Center  
2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd., Dalton, GA  
I-75, Exit 333**

**Over 200 tables**

**There will be a wide selection of speakers on various topics  
and collector club programs during the show.**

**Come out and meet President Lincoln**

**Free Admission - Free Appraisals - Buy - Sell - Trade**

**U.S., world coins, currency, ancients, tokens, other numismatic  
items**

**Raffle Tickets are available for door prizes (contact any BRNA  
officers or board member for further information)**

**1st prize - 1 oz Gold Coin - 2nd prize - 1/2 oz Gold Coin**

**3rd prize - 1/4 oz Gold Coin - 4th prize - 1/10 oz Gold Coin**

**5th prize - 1960 Proof Set**

---

**Bourse Chairman**

**Bob Hurst, P.O. Box 5506, Titusville, FL 32783  
(321) 427-6474 - [forvm@cfl.rr.com](mailto:forvm@cfl.rr.com)**

# The Virginia Beach Coin Show

Oct 10 & 11, 2009

Presented by Tidewater Coin Club

at the Virginia Beach Convention Center  
1000 19th Street  
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

66 Dealer Tables / 35 Dealers

Free Admission / Educational Exhibits /  
Free stuff and activities for kids

For info visit [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org)  
or call John Kolos 757-222-4343



1703 Eight Reales of Philip V from Lima, Peru



# Charlottesville Coin & Currency Show

## Sept. 12, 2009

9:00-5:00

Elks Lodge #389  
389 Elk Drive  
Charlottesville, VA 22911

Bourse Chairman-Kara Luck  
President Monticello Blue Ridge Coin Club  
434-295-1765

[jim@onlinecoinshow.com](mailto:jim@onlinecoinshow.com)

show webpage: [www.coinshows.com](http://www.coinshows.com)



1824 General Lafayette Medal - Defender of American and French Liberty by Caunois French

## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS. Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Thomas Wood, 1026 Main Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webracceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.richmondcoinclub.com](http://www.richmondcoinclub.com)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall # 4809 on Barteet St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.com](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.com)

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meetings are held on the third Monday at 7:30 PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact Willard H. Waples, 330 Marlboro Rd, Newport News, VA 23602.

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---



*Buy - Sell - Trade - Appraise*



## Acropolis Coins

495 High Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone (304) 296-2931

Open 10 am - 5 pm Monday - Saturday



#LM 3368

K.V. "Gus"  
Seremetis



## THE SENTRY BOX

World Coins

Box 6112

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Chris Maniscalco  
(757) 721-5331

## LIBERTY COINS

Authorized PCGS and NGC Dealer

Ronald J. Mirr

8503 Patterson Avenue, Suite 8  
Richmond, Virginia 23229  
(804) 741-8143

Always Buying  
Collections  
And Estates

All U.S. Coins  
and Paper Money

## Doug's Coins

Buy - Sell - Trade  
and Appraisals

P.O. Box 598  
Crozet, VA 22932



Phone  
(434) 823-8096

## Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

September 20, 2009    November 30, 2009    March 28, 2010

June 27, 2010    September 19, 2010    November 28, 2010

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free Parking and Free Admission

Snack Bar

Sponsored by:

Carl Earl Ostiguy

CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES

P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763

phone 410-379-5646    cell phone 443-623-7025

E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:

The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin

Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:

[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)



**MERCURY NUMISMATICS**  
Appraisal/Investments

JOEL P. CHERRY  
Life Member ANA, VNA



Post Office Box 301, Merrifield, VA 22116  
(703) 876-9450  
[www.mercurycoin.com](http://www.mercurycoin.com)

**WEISS**

**NUMISMATICS**

**COLLECTABLE**

**SALES**

**Ancient, Medieval, Foreign**

**POST OFFICE BOX 661  
HOPATCONG, NJ 07843**

**PHONE/FAX  
(973)389-0700**

**MODERN COIN**

**212 E. Grace, Richmond, Va.**

**Store Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday**

**10 AM - 3 PM Saturday**

**We buy U.S. Coins, Gold, Silver and  
Currency**

**(804) 643-0965**

## BUYING AND SELLING US AND COLONIAL CURRENCY

- Continental and Colonial Currency
  - Fractional Currency
  - Confederate Currency
  - Large Size Type Notes
  - Small Size Type Notes

FREE comprehensive currency price list available upon request.

Your WANT LIST will receive my personal attention.

Professional APPRAISALS performed with discretion and expedience.

AUCTION REPRESENTATION services provided at competitive rates –  
I attend most major currency auctions and treat all of my customers with  
ardent professionalism.

### ***JAMES POLIS***

4501 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 306

Washington, D.C. 20008

(202) 363 – 6650

[jpolis7935@aol.com](mailto:jpolis7935@aol.com)

Member: *PCDA, SPMC, FCCB, ANA*

### **Carl Earl Ostiguy**

Dealer in Coins, Currency and Treasures

All Materials Kept in Bank Vaults

Buying & selling coins, currency and treasures

Appraisals and Auctions

By Appointment Only

Historic Savage Mill

P.O.Box 92, Savage, Maryland 20763

[ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

410-379-5646



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynne Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**



Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynne Skrabalak  
LM5925



*Knowledge. Integrity. Responsibility.*

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591





NEWLY PUBLISHED

## THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR:

Historical Notes and Trial List of Varieties

- 60 pages : 5" x 8" : paper covers : over 175 B&W images
- detailed, illustrated history of the Southern Cross of Honor
  - 14 varieties cataloged with enlarged illustrations
  - 7 reproduction Crosses illustrated and discussed
  - Certificates of Eligibility: the 4 types illustrated

Auction Report; Recipients of 1st Crosses in Athens and Atlanta; More

- \$20.00 + \$1.50 Postage (Dealer Inquiries Invited) -

Peter Bertram, PO Box 451421, Atlanta, GA 31145-1421

*peterbatl@aol.com*

## **VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK NOTES FOR SALE**

**EMAIL YOUR WANT LIST TO**  
**jameslbecknerjr@gmail.com**

**VNA L0093,  
ANA LM-5273, SPMC LM 325**





## THE MONEY \$TORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Covesville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

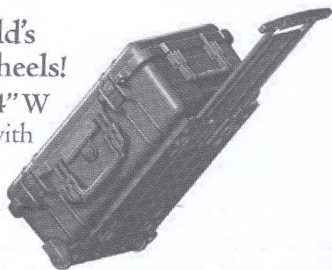
(We buy it all ... DISCREETLY.)



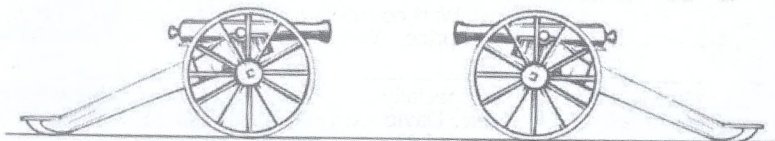
And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. *(More than 4,000 large cents in stock.)*

**NEW FOR DEALERS:** The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) - Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement *(except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5).*



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

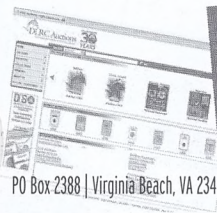
ANA LM 3559



# GRADE & TRADE

## WITH DGS

DLRC is making a two-way market in **DGS** graded coins. Submit to **DGS** and we'll buy or auction your coins for you.



**Submit your coins to DGS for grading today!** Get a cash offer or an unbeatable auction consignment deal from David Lawrence Rare Coins. DLRC wants to buy all coins in DGS holders and is paying 80% or more of Greysheet for problem-free DGS collector coins!

**Contact us today!**



PO Box 2388 | Virginia Beach, VA 23450-2388 | Toll Free: 1-800-277-2646 | Fax: 888-719-9739 | [info@dominiongrading.com](mailto:info@dominiongrading.com) | [www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com)



VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Koeber  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PSRT STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905



# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Fall 2009*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



Genuine and Counterfeit U.S. Quarter Eagles

INSIDE:

**\* COUNTERFEIT !**

**By Tom Kays**

**\* SPECIAL REPORT - Substantial Reward Offered for Information Leading to the Recovery of Stolen Coins - Be on the Lookout for Unique Coins and Notes**



# Why So Many Dealers and Collectors Consign and Sell to Smythe

- Top Dollar Paid on Direct Purchases
- Record Breaking Auction Prices
- Competitive Auction Commissions Rates
- Friendly, Personalized Service
- Impeccable References
- Expert Staff of Internationally-Recognized Specialists
- Generous Cash Advances, Flexible Terms



## Our Outstanding Team of Experts:

Diana Herzog (Autographs)  
 Stephen Goldsmith (Stocks, Bonds, U.S. Coins)  
 Scott Lindquist (U.S. Small Size, Nationals)  
 Bruce Smart (World Banknotes)  
 Caleb Esterline (Stocks & Bonds)

Mark Anderson (Banknotes)  
 Robert Litzenberger (Autographs)  
 Nirat Lertchitvikul (U.S. & World Coins)  
 Tom Tesoriero (Ancient & Foreign Coins)  
 Greg Cohen (U.S. Coins)

## Consign Your Collection To Our Next Auction

Call 800-622-1880 or 212-943-1880 and ask for Stephen Goldsmith, Mark Anderson, Scott Lindquist or Caleb Esterline.



2 Rector Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10006-1844

TEL: 212-943-1880 TOLL FREE: 800-622-1880 FAX: 212-312-6370

E-MAIL: [info@smytheononline.com](mailto:info@smytheononline.com) WEBSITE: [smytheononline.com](http://smytheononline.com)

*We buy, sell, and auction the very best in Paper Money, Antique Stocks and Bonds, Coins, and Autographs*



## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 45, No. 4

Fall 2009

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Show Schedule.....                  | 2  |
| Membership Application.....         | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors..... | 3  |
| President's Message.....            | 4  |
| VNA Speakers Bureau.....            | 6  |
| Counterfeit!.....                   | 8  |
| SPECIAL REPORT.....                 | 23 |
| VNA Clubs.....                      | 29 |
| Money \$tore.....                   | 36 |



## Show Schedule

- SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN AND STAMP SHOW, December 4th-6th, Friday 12-5, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-2, Weyer's Cave Community Ctr., 682 Weyer's Cave Rd. Weyer's Cave, VA, Sponsored by Weyer's Cave Lion's Club, Dave Batten, (540) 849-9108, Email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

- ANNANDALE COIN & CURRENCY SHOW - Saturday, December 12th, 10am - 6pm and Sunday, December 13th, 10am - 4pm at Northern Virginia Community College, Ernst Community Cultural Center, 8333 Little River Turnpike Annandale, VA. Website: [www.AnnandaleCoinShow.com](http://www.AnnandaleCoinShow.com)

- VIRGINIA BEACH COIN SHOW - February 20 - 21, 2010 at the Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19th Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23451, Sponsored by the Tidewater Coin Club, Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org)



### VNA Membership / Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family  
☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime  
☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
PO Box 16833  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues promptly! We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: John Koebert  
P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195

(703) 435-0357  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash  
P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

email: cash2274@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays  
P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313

email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore  
Mechanicsville, VA

email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart  
P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190

email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart  
Virginia Beach, VA

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batton  
PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford  
PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Jim Owens  
213 Millwood Ave, Winchester, VA 22601

Director: Emmett Yonce  
P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083





## *President's Letter*

PLEASE CONSIDER ATTENDING THESE IMPORTANT 2010 EVENTS

### THE 52nd ANNUAL VNA CONVENTION AND COIN SHOW

The Greater Richmond Convention Center

403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219

September, 2010

More information on the next convention will be disclosed in the Spring 2010 VNA Newsletter.

Sponsored by the Virginia Numismatic Association

and hosted by the Richmond Coin Club

To obtain the VNA Bourse Application and further information online, please visit: [www.vnaonline.org](http://www.vnaonline.org)

For more information about the Greater Richmond Convention Center, please visit: [www.richmondcenter.com](http://www.richmondcenter.com)

and

### THE RICHMOND COIN CLUB - 6TH ANNUAL SPRING COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

May, 2010,

at the Holiday Inn Central, 3207 North Boulevard, Richmond, VA. 23230, Right near I-95N Boulevard Exit,

FREE ADMISSION, FREE PARKING, FREE ESTIMATES

Dealer Tables: 60+ Contact: Connie Robertson, [connie3798@comcast.net](mailto:connie3798@comcast.net), 804-672-8321

## *Editor's Corner*

Tom Kays

In this Fall edition we still seek speakers for the VNA Speakers Bureau, explore the history of counterfeit coins and seek your help to solve a real and major crime against a local coin dealer. A substantial reward of more than \$160,000 has been offered by generous contributors from across the coin dealer community for information leading to the arrest of the thieves and recovery of the coins worth somewhere in the seven figures! VNA readers are asked to be on the lookout for any of the stolen coins or notes, many of which are high dollar, unique items that could walk into your local coin shop for sale, or may appear in a future on-line sale. Coin articles written by our readers are again solicited for the Winter 2010 edition.

### ORDER A VNA PIN

Introduced at 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention

Gold & Black with VNA Logo – 1" Diameter  
\$5.00 – Includes Postage & Handling

Send check payable to Virginia Numismatic Association with this order form to  
George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236

Mail pin to: (PLEASE PRINT)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
ZIP







## **SPEAKERS STILL WANTED !**

### ***CALLING ALL VNA MEMBERS***

The Board of Directors of your VNA would like to establish a list of people who are willing to present a numismatic program on their topic of interest to member clubs. Once we establish a speakers bureau it will be possible for a club looking for a speaker to contact the speakers bureau to see who would be available for the particular time slot. As we get more refined, we can list the topics available so the clubs could zero in on a particular subject of interest. This list of speakers/topics can be posted on our VNA website and in our quarterly magazine.

To get this program off to a good start we are asking anyone who would like to be listed as a speaker or would like to recommend someone they think would be willing to participate to please fill out the following form and return it to George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236. As speakers sign up, their topics will be listed on the VNA web site. Speakers do not have to be VNA members.

**VNA Speakers Bureau Registration** (PLEASE PRINT)

Speaker's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Topic:
- (2) Topic:
- (3) Topic:

\* \* \* \* \*

If you are recommending someone, please also provide information about yourself below:

Submitted by (Name) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Send form by **DECEMBER 15th** to:  
**George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236**



# Counterfeit!

by Tom Kays

Today, Chinese and Hong Kong manufactured fake collectible coins, created using laser die-cutting technology are being sold overseas to tourists who import them to the U.S. as curios. Once here, they may change hands through flea markets becoming a challenge to the casual coin buyer. Counterfeit coins come in a range of deception, from crude to credible. In some cases, genuine, though common, U.S. coins are being used as coin blanks being of the proper weight and fineness, for creating fine, die-struck, ultra rarities and keys. Key coins always receive extra special inspection, but common dates, commemoratives, error coins, and obscure series and varieties that were never faked before, some in fake slabs, have begun to appear to fool busy coin dealers a significant amount of the time. Coin collectors must be ever more on guard, and take the time to study genuine coins, their diagnostics and characteristics, get second opinions, and only deal with reputable dealers with a return policy. We have always needed to be mindful of counterfeit notes from circulation; but now the counterfeiters have targeted coin collectors directly. But this deception is really nothing new. In fact it is a very old practice indeed.

"Coin is an ordinary commodity, like any other, authenticated as to quality and weight by the stamp of the state. But coin, so long as it circulates within the





Figure 1. Silver-plated counterfeit peso imitation of Charles III, Portrait-Style Eight Reales of Mexico, ostensibly dated 1788, with 1797 George III, Emergency "four shillings, nine pence" English counterstamp - Manufactured in the early nineteenth century and found in Canada, at a War-of-1812 era encampment site. Silver leaf is missing revealing a dark, composite base metal core. Said to be "the head of a fool on the neck of an ass" both are as bogus as can be.



realm for the purpose of buying and selling, loses for the time its intrinsic value. It resembles a steam engine, a field, or any other machine. Its intrinsic value is suspended till it is sold, and its worth consists solely in the work it achieves. Sovereigns, when passing from hand to hand, are no better than tokens or counters. They are not wanted for the sake of the gold they contain, but as simple pledges that a man shall be able to buy with them as many commodities as those he gave in exchange for them. A bad shilling does the work of coin quite as well as a good one till it is found out; and it then becomes worthless, because the absence of the intrinsic value destroys faith in its power to persuade a seller to part with his wares. If that seller knew that he could pass it off as good upon another man, he would (apart from the question of morality) be as willing to take it as a silver shilling. Metallic money, whilst acting as coin, is identical with paper money, in respect of being destitute of intrinsic value; with this single difference, that when it is desired to reproduce the intrinsic value, the sovereign can be instantly turned into bullion; whilst, in the case of a note, an intermediate step is necessary – it must be sent to the bank before its intrinsic value is recovered. The security for the value is already in the hands of the holder of the sovereign; for the note, the solvency of the issuer is an additional requisite.” 1

Not long after coin began to circulate did the first imitations of coins come about. The Greek writer Herodotus reports that Polycrates purchased [paid ransom





Figure 2. Genuine 1781 Two Reales of Mexico (left) and Contemporary Counterfeit in silver (right)

for] the departure of an occupying army of Lacedemonians from the Greek Isle of Samos by striking lead coins encased with gold in imitation of the local solid gold currency and by passing them off on the unsuspecting soldiers. The troops were sent packing with what they thought was good "tribute," but this time, cheated of much intrinsic value. If Polycrates gave rise to the first counterfeit coins, so too, was he patron of the art of coin forgery.



"In Padua, about 1540, two engravers, Jean Cavino and Alexander Bassiano, were manufacturers of copies of coins and medals. They pursued this honest line of business until they became so skillful that their copies could not be detected from the originals, and then they began to sell them as genuine coins and medals. Hence came the name "Paduan," applied by many collectors to any ancient coin of modern make... A catalogue of the forged coins of Becker [was published in 1826, whose] number was immense, of coins which he made from imagination purely, without any historical authority. The result of this is that there are now thousands of these coins in collections, and offered for sale by collectors throughout the world. The cheat has been carried so far that, in some cities of the East, it is not uncommon for men to have supplies of these manufactured coins buried, and "excavate" them before the eyes of travelers, to whom they at once sell them at enormous prices. [W.C. Prime reports in 1860 of having] seen countless numbers of them offered for sale in Cairo, Smyrna, Athens and other cities of the Levant.





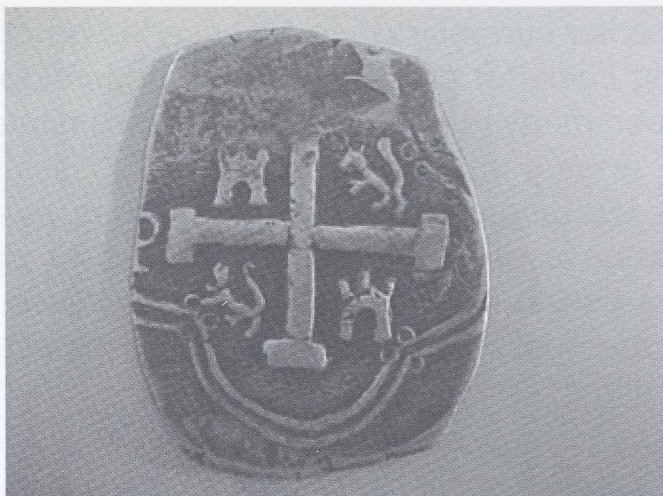


Figure 3. Early, fantasy, "Piece-of-Eight" in silver, reminiscent of those from Potosi, Bolivia, circa 1768 - Origin unknown, but of the same "school" as the Becker fantasy pieces.

But these are not the only manufactured coins. The most rare and costly of modern coins are of tempting value to counterfeiters, and not a few fine pieces, contained in collections and ranking high in catalogues, are manifestly manufactured coins. Another style of forgery consists in splitting ancient coins and substituting the reverses. Thus a coin of [the Roman Emperor] Augustus might be produced with a reverse known only to coins of [the much later Roman Emperor] Diocletian, and the result would command a high price from a collector. [Note: Similar to commemorative coins, in ancient times the restitution of the coinage of one Emperor by his successor, consisting of a smaller issue of pieces than the original from which it was taken, has become comparatively scarce; hence such restitutions fetch a much higher price than those



of the earlier currency.<sup>2</sup>] In America the art of manufacturing coins for collectors is well understood. We have seen many rare and splendid coins imitated very closely, and no one but an experienced collector can rely on his judgment in purchasing from strangers. But Roman and Greek coins command no prices in America [in the opinion of W.C. Prime, circa 1860], where the mania for collecting coins is almost wholly confined to the American series. <sup>3</sup>



Figure 4. Genuine 1853 U.S. Half Cent (left) and pewter cast counterfeit 1854 Half Cent (right), meant to deceive - The size matches but details are lacking. This counterfeit might have fooled people trading at night by candlelight.

From an unattributed 1901 New York City newspaper clipping:



## Cents are Queer

### Counterfeit 1881 Pennies in Circulation – A Poor Imitation

A number of counterfeit pennies of the year 1881 are in circulation in town at the present time and an attempt is to be made by the government officers to locate the source of these coins. The cents are very poor counterfeits, being less than one-half the thickness of the good coin and somewhat smaller in diameter. The die work is very poor, the Indian head being a particularly poor piece of work. The counterfeit is easily to be detected, but in making change rapidly the presence of the “queer” coins would not be easily discovered.



Figure 5. Genuine 1847 Large Cent (left) and copper counterfeit (right) – The counterfeit is smaller and thinner than the original and lacks detail. A counterfeit coin's apparent date is usually back-dated by decades from the date of manufacture, in order for circulation wear on legitimate coins to approximate the crude look. Since large cents were mostly pulled from circulation during Civil War this counterfeit might have been manufactured during the war.





Figure 6. Genuine 1854 Quarter Dollar (left) and early lead cast counterfeit (right) “dateless” Seated Liberty Quarter Dollar – A standard shopkeeper practice to detect lead counterfeits of silver coins was to bounce them hard on stone counters; many counterfeits were brittle and broke apart when bounced, others did not ring like silver



Figure 7. Lead Cast Counterfeit 1854 “with Arrows” Quarter Dollar excavated from a Civil War site in Florida – 1854 Quarters were one of the most common quarter dates in circulation well into the 1890s.



Closer to home, Thomas Cox warns of a close call with counterfeit bills on his travels in Virginia in March 1769. You get the sense of what a dread business it was for honest persons to receive counterfeits of any kind.

### A Caution to "Travellers"

Being on a tour through Maryland and Virginia, in my way back from Williamsburg, I called at the House of \_\_\_\_\_; an Ordinary at Todd's Bridge, in Virginia, having dined, and called to pay, I gave to a young man, who, in appearance, seemed to act as Master of the House, an Half Johannes [Gold Coin of Portugal of 6400 Reis] to change; in return, he gave me Five Virginia Bills; I think three of them were Ten Shillings each, and Two of Five Shillings, and the rest, to my full change, in coin; at the same time, three persons, travelers, standing by, one of them, Mr. Payton, a reputable publican, living at Acquia, near Fredericksburg, desired to see the Bills, and taking them out of my hand, carefully examining them, said to the person who gave them to me, "How can you thus attempt to impose on a stranger; these bills are everyone of them counterfeits, and so notoriously so, that you cannot be ignorant of it:" two other Gentleman, who were looking on, taking the bills into their hands also concurred with Mr. Peyton that the bills were counterfeit; at the same time, remonstrating with the young man, on the business of his attempt, who, on his part, said little to justify himself, being visibly conscious of his guilt. As my residence is 800 miles distant, and my affairs not permitting me to stay so long in Virginia, as would be necessary to carry on a prosecution, which in justice to myself, and the Public, I ought to do, if in my power, and, as it



obvious to everybody, what dangerous consequences might have ensued to me, had I inadvertently taken those bills, and offered them again in payment, as I should innocently have done, I having no other bills but those counterfeits, might have induced any one to suspect me the counterfeiter, upon which supposition I might, being a stranger, little known in these parts, have suffered the consequences of a severe prosecution; therefore, as my situation will not permit me to stay to do myself justice, I now call on Mr. Peyton, to prosecute, and expose to Justice, so base a Villainy; and, as I believe Mr. Peyton to be a man of sentiment and probity, so I have reason to hope, for the sake of the Public Justice, he will not suffer this, so flagrant abuse, to pass unnoticed. Signed - Thomas Cox – March 1769



Figure 8. Genuine 1721 “Pistareen” or silver two reales of Philip V of Madrid, Spain (left) and well-made contemporary counterfeit, 1721 Pistareen, purportedly of Seville and not of good silver (right) – It is sometimes difficult to say when a counterfeit was made, regardless



of its date, as in this case - this could be an eighteenth or nineteenth century copy since these coins circulated in America well after the Revolution, and among islands in the Caribbean upwards of one hundred and fifty years.

From the May 14, 1855 edition of the New York Times:

### Singular Discovery of Counterfeit Coin in the Ruins of a Cellar – How Did it Come There?

Yesterday morning, as some newsboys were groping in the ruins of the houses now being torn down at the corner of Nassau and Beekman streets, [New York City] opposite the Daily Times Office, one of their number discovered, buried in the earth beneath the cellar of the building, the basement of which, for five or six years past, has been used by Mr. Greene as a restaurant, a very large quantity of counterfeit pistareens. The news soon spread among the boys, and the cellar was speedily filled with them, digging and searching in all directions. They filled their pockets, and brought utensils in which to carry away as much as they could appropriate of what appeared to them an almost fabulous treasure. The affair coming to the knowledge of the Second Ward Police, some of the force went to the spot, drove the boys away, and took possession of the remainder of the coin, which they removed in pails to the Station House. The quantity they recovered, after the boys were expelled, was about half a bushel. The coin, it appeared, had been originally contained in canvas bags, which, however, had all rotted away, only a few threads being discernable, from the length of time they had been buried in the earth. Some of the coin was quite bright, but the mass of it was covered with verdigris, and caked together with dirt and damp.



We saw one such mass weighing about three pounds. Altogether there must have been at least a hundred thousand of these coins deposited in the cellar, but at what time and by whom they were secreted is at present a mystery. About eight or nine years ago, a large quantity of coin, somewhat similar in appearance, and which had been manufactured for the South American market, was seized by the Authorities in this City, but Mr. Thompson, the United States Marshall's clerk, says that to the best of his recollection, it was Hessian coin, whereas those found yesterday, are Spanish pistareens. We examined several handfuls of the coins yesterday, at the Station House; some of them were very fair in appearance, and had a good ring... They have evidently been cast in a mould, and are formed of a composition of metals, with as some say, who have tested them, no inconsiderable portion of silver...







Figure 9. Genuine toned, sea salvaged 1807 Eight Reales of Mexico with contemporary counterfeit, deceptive "1797" Eight Reales in the style of Lima, cut to four, with composite core surmounted by fine silver leaf.



Figure 10. "1786" Silver-Plated Counterfeit Eight Reales cut to four (top) revealing the deception and Dateless, cast counterfeit (bottom), both excavated in Virginia.



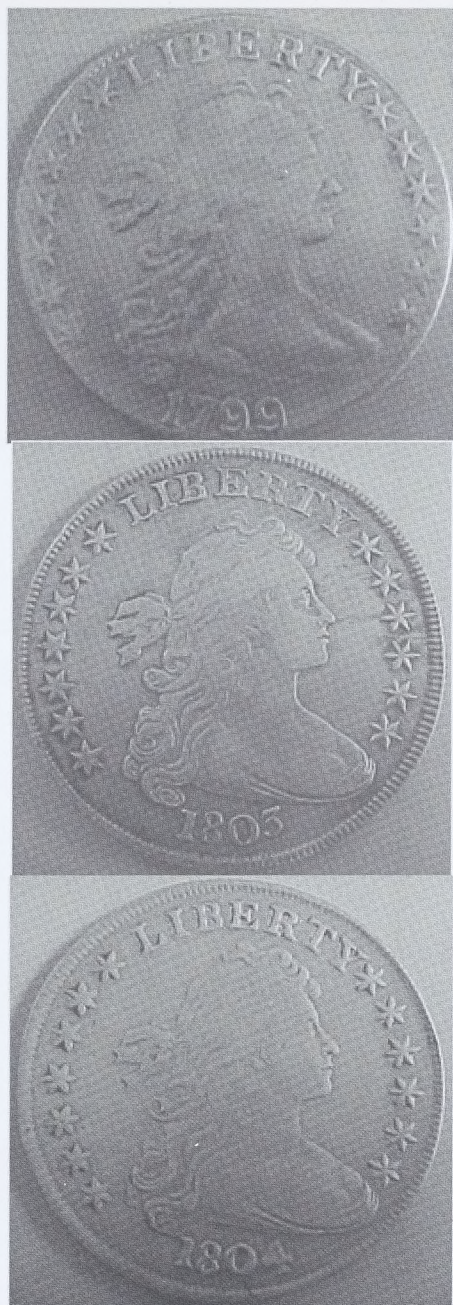


Figure 11. Real or Counterfeit Bust Dollars – Can you decide from a picture?

## References

1. Charles Moran, Money, 1863, which quotes from What is Money? - North British Review, November 1861, via the University of Michigan, Making of America Website.
2. More Rouges in Outline, Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, Volume 60 (369) July 1846, Page 107, via [www.bodley.ox.ac.uk](http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk)
3. W.C. Prime, Coins and Coinage, Harper's New Monthly Magazine, Volume 20, Issue 117, Harper & Bros, New York, February 1860, pp. 339-341, via Cornell University Library, Making of America Website.

## SPECIAL REPORT

A very substantial reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the thief or thieves who stole over 1000 coins and notes, valued in the "seven figures," from the car of Silver Spring, Md., "coin dealer of the year" Julian Leidman, on October 11th. We urge coin dealers or collectors to contact Detective Christopher M. Keezer of the Montville NJ Police Department at 973-257-4113 ([CKeezeer@MontvilleNJ.org](mailto:CKeezeer@MontvilleNJ.org)) or Julian Leidman at 301-785-5640 if they have any information about this crime, or think that any of the coins listed below are being offered for sale, either online, or in person. This is especially true for those attending flea markets, local coin auctions, "Brick and Mortar" coin shops on the East Coast, and major coin shows in distant cities. The Numismatic Crime Information Center reports that a side window of Leidman's car was smashed and the coins removed. Leidman was returning from "Coinfest," a show held over the weekend in Stamford.



The dealer community banding together to help law enforcement solve the case collectively have contributed a substantial reward, that now stands at over \$160,000, with the initial reward offered by Coinfest founders Laura Sperber and Jon Lerner through the Professional Numismatists Guild. Other PNG dealers followed.

VNA readers, please be on the lookout for these stolen coins. If you see them being offered for sale, please contact the police or Julian at the numbers above. Julian also noted some distinctive paper money in the haul. He writes: "I am hoping that anyone who sees anything unusual will contact me, as I can pretty much answer yes or no, quickly" when describing coins or notes being offered for sale. "It was a huge amount, seven figures," Leidman said, enumerating the loss. "This is the worst thing that has ever happened to me."

He believes he may have been targeted during Coinfest. "I was one of the last people to leave the show, and there were a couple of women around -- one of which had been by my table a few times," he said. "When I left, she was sitting out at the reception area of the hotel and she was on her cell phone, and my wife said, 'The lady just said, 'They're on their way out.'"" To read the complete article, see: Coin Dealer Julian Leidman Victim of Vehicle Burglary. Reward Grows to \$74,500 ([www.coinlink.com/News/featured/coin-dealer-julian-leidman-victim-of-vehicle-burglary/](http://www.coinlink.com/News/featured/coin-dealer-julian-leidman-victim-of-vehicle-burglary/))

Following are Julian's detailed descriptions of a few of the recognizable items that were stolen.

## STOLEN COINS

- 1806 HALF DOLLAR O-123 Gem Proof-like Uncirculated - My client has owned this piece for at least thirty years, having purchased it from Ed Milas of Rarcoa in Chicago. It is a very well struck example of Overton-123 without any die breaks and is far scarcer than a normal O-123 that has die breaks and a weakly struck reverse center. The coin is wholly proof-like and naturally toned Gem Uncirculated specimen.
- 1807 O-113 HALF DOLLAR PCGS MS65, GEM Uncirculated, Small Stars - This coin is a spectacularly toned GEM Uncirculated, prooflike, and the finest known 1807 half, period. Ex. lot #296 Lester Merkin's sale of 3/15/67, an incredible offering of early halves following his landmark offering of the Helfenstein Large cents and dimes in his 4/66 auction, Lester raved about this coin.
- ENGRAVED #12 1921-D MORGAN DOLLAR Gem Toned Uncirculated, the 12th coin released-This is the 12th Silver Dollar released from the first 100 coins struck in Denver. The first two coins were presented to two Colorado institutions, one being the School of Mines, were not engraved. Neither of these coins is currently known. The 3rd coin thru the 12th are engraved as follows:  
  
"-- dollar released from 1st 100 ever coined at Denver Mint  
Thomas A. Annear Supt."  
I believe that all of the 10 engraved coins are known today.  
The other 88 coins were not engraved and are not traceable.



## STOLEN COINS - Continued

- 1873 NGC PF 65 Proof Trade Dollar - Judd Pattern
- 1929 Five Reichmark Off-Center error
- 1921 \$20 gold piece NGC MS-61
- 1932 \$20 gold piece Uncirculated
- 1892-O dollar PCGS genuine holder incredible coin appears to be proof.

## STOLEN NOTES

- Serial Number 84 Currency Collection: Currency Collection (65 Notes Total) With Serial #'s of "84." This is a unique collection that I have been working on for over 30 years. Some are circulated and many of them are crisp uncirculated.
- Sword-in-hand Colonial Note, Massachusetts Bay, August 18, 1775, the very famous Sword in Hand design, 11 shillings, fully issued with 3 signatures, re-dated in ink, 8/7, the only one ever seen by Eric P. Newman, THE expert in the series. Much finer than the 2 signature example in the incredible John J. Ford collection.
- The United Colonies, February 26, 1777, extremely fine
- The United States, January 14, 1779, \$65, Bright Gem Uncirculated
- Connecticut, June 1, 1773, 40 shillings, near uncirculated
- Delaware, January 1, 1776, 20 shillings, beautiful uncirc
- Georgia, August 14, 1786, 20 shillings, almost uncirculated with a small corner repair
- Maryland, April 10, 1774, \$8, almost uncirculated

## STOLEN NOTES - Continued

- Massachusetts, 1779, 5 shillings, rising sun obverse plate designed by Paul Revere, extremely fine
- New Hampshire, November 3, 1775, 30 shillings, probably a contemporary counterfeit, almost uncirculated
- New Jersey, March 25, 1776, 6 shillings, red and black note, beautiful uncirculated
- New Jersey, June 9, 1780, \$4, signed by D. Brearley, signer of the US Constitution, extremely fine, ex. Joe Gallo and probably Otto Budde before him
- New York, March 5, 1776, \$1/3, (2 shillings eight pence), uncirculated
- North Carolina, December 1768, 10 shillings, choice almost uncirculated
- Pennsylvania, October 1, 1773, 20 shillings, uncirculated
- Pennsylvania, March 16, 1785, 3 pence, very fine
- Rhode Island, July 2, 1780, \$3, gorgeous uncirculated, not signed on back
- South Carolina, February, 14, 1777, \$30, very fine
- South Carolina, April 10, 1778, 7 shillings 6 pence, fine
- South Carolina, February 8, 1779, \$90, almost uncirculated
- Vermont, February, 1781, 20 shillings, some restoration, appears very fine
- Virginia, October 16, 1780, \$1000, "Clothing for the Army" issue, very fine, rough edges, ink hole in signature
- Virginia, March 1, 1781, \$750, choice almost uncirculated

To read the complete article, see: Rare, valuable coins stolen in Montville ([www.dailyrecord.com/article/20091014/COMMUNITIES/310140017/1344/NEWS14](http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20091014/COMMUNITIES/310140017/1344/NEWS14))



## OLD COIN GALLERY



Genuine 1762 Pillar Dollar of Mexico and modern, crude cast counterfeit 1762 Pillar Dollar of Lima, Peru (Not silver)



Counterfeiter's Tool - White metal mould for casting obverse of counterfeit 1739 Mexican Pillar Dollar. Lead/white metal appearance with hole at top found near Brandy Station along with colonial flat buttons.



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS. Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Thomas Wood, 1026 Main Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webracceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.richmondcoinclub.com](http://www.richmondcoinclub.com)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall # 4809 on Barteet St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org)

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meetings are held on the third Monday at 7:30 PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact Willard H. Waples, 330 Marlboro Rd, Newport News, VA 23602.

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---



*Buy - Sell - Trade - Appraise*



## Acropolis Coins

495 High Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone (304) 296-2931

Open 10 am - 5 pm Monday - Saturday



#LM 3368

K.V. "Gus"  
Seremetis



## THE SENTRY BOX

World Coins

Box 6112

Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Chris Maniscalco  
(757) 721-5331

## LIBERTY COINS

Authorized PCGS and NGC Dealer

Ronald J. Mirr

8503 Patterson Avenue, Suite 8  
Richmond, Virginia 23229  
(804) 741-8143

Always Buying  
Collections  
And Estates

All U.S. Coins  
and Paper Money



## Doug's Coins

Buy - Sell - Trade  
and Appraisals

P.O. Box 598  
Crozet, VA 22932

Phone  
(434) 823-8096

## Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

September 20, 2009   November 30, 2009   March 28, 2010

June 27, 2010   September 19, 2010   November 28, 2010

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free Parking and Free Admission

Snack Bar

Sponsored by:

Carl Earl Ostiguy

CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES

P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763

phone 410-379-5646   cell phone 443-623-7025

E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:

The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin

Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:

[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)



## MERCURY NUMISMATICS

Appraisal/Investments



JOEL P. CHERRY  
Life Member ANA, VNA

Post Office Box 301, Merrifield, VA 22116

(703) 876-9450

[www.mercurycoin.com](http://www.mercurycoin.com)

WEISS

NUMISMATICS

COLLECTABLE

SALES

Ancient, Medieval, Foreign

POST OFFICE BOX 661

PHONE/FAX

HOPATCONG, NJ 07843

(973)389-0700

## MODERN COIN

212 E. Grace, Richmond, Va.

Store Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday

10 AM - 3 PM Saturday

We buy U.S. Coins, Gold, Silver and  
Currency

(804) 643-0965

## BUYING AND SELLING US AND COLONIAL CURRENCY

- Continental and Colonial Currency
  - Fractional Currency
  - Confederate Currency
  - Large Size Type Notes
  - Small Size Type Notes

FREE comprehensive currency price list available upon request.

Your WANT LIST will receive my personal attention.

Professional APPRAISALS performed with discretion and expedience.

AUCTION REPRESENTATION services provided at competitive rates –  
I attend most major currency auctions and treat all of my customers with  
ardent professionalism.

### ***JAMES POLIS***

4501 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 306

Washington, D.C. 20008

(202) 363 – 6650

jpolis7935@aol.com

Member: *PCDA, SPMC, FCCB, ANA*

### **Carl Earl Ostiguy**

Dealer in Coins, Currency and Treasures

All Materials Kept in Bank Vaults

Buying & selling coins, currency and treasures

Appraisals and Auctions

By Appointment Only

Historic Savage Mill

P.O. Box 92, Savage, Maryland 20763

ceocoins@comcast.net

410-379-5646



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**



Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak  
LM5925



Know-Edge. Integrity. Responsibility.

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591





NEWLY PUBLISHED

## THE SOUTHERN CROSS OF HONOR:

Historical Notes and Trial List of Varieties

- 60 pages : 5" x 8" : paper covers : over 175 B&W images
- detailed, illustrated history of the Southern Cross of Honor
  - 14 varieties cataloged with enlarged illustrations
  - 7 reproduction Crosses illustrated and discussed
  - Certificates of Eligibility: the 4 types illustrated

Auction Report; Recipients of 1st Crosses in Athens and Atlanta; More

- \$20.00 + \$1.50 Postage (Dealer Inquiries Invited) -

Peter Bertram, PO Box 451421, Atlanta, GA 31145-1421

*peterbatl@aol.com*

## **VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK NOTES FOR SALE**

**EMAIL YOUR WANT LIST TO**  
**jameslbecknerjr@gmail.com**

**VNA L0093,**  
**ANA LM-5273, SPMC LM 325**





## THE MONEY \$TORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Covessville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS WANTED: Chris Maniscalco, P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 831-2795. E-mail: sentrybox@hotmail.com

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

(WE BUY IT ALL ... DISCREETLY.)



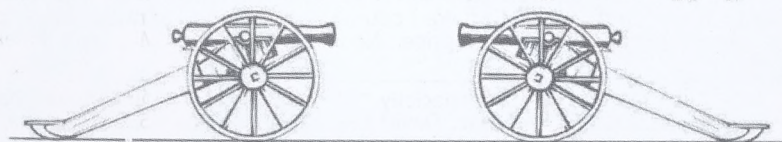
And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. (*More than 4,000 large cents in stock.*)

**NEW FOR DEALERS: The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!**

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) – Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement (*except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5*).



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

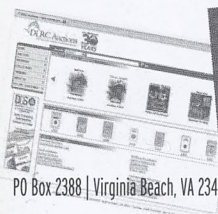
ANA LM 3559



# GRADE & TRADE

## WITH DGS

DLRC is making a two-way market in **DGS** graded coins. Submit to **DGS** and we'll buy or auction your coins for you.



**Submit your coins to DGS for grading today!** Get a cash offer or an unbeatable auction consignment deal from David Lawrence Rare Coins. DLRC wants to buy all coins in DGS holders and is paying 80% or more of Greysheet for problem-free DGS collector coins!

**Contact us today!**



PO Box 2388 | Virginia Beach, VA 23450-2388 | Toll Free: 1-800-277-2646 | Fax: 888-719-9739 | [info@dominiongrading.com](mailto:info@dominiongrading.com) | [www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com)



VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PSRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Winter 2010*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



1861 Seated Liberty Half Dollar

INSIDE:

- \* **Wither Goes The Cent? - Mark Benvenuto**
- \* **Northern Virginia Young Numismatists Program Started - Wayne Homren**
- \* **Virginia Coin Show Calendar - Susan Cash**



## Why So Many Dealers and Collectors Consign and Sell to Smythe

- Top Dollar Paid on Direct Purchases
- Record Breaking Auction Prices
- Competitive Auction Commissions Rates
- Friendly, Personalized Service
- Impeccable References
- Expert Staff of Internationally-Recognized Specialists
- Generous Cash Advances, Flexible Terms



## Our Outstanding Team of Experts:

Diana Herzog (Autographs)

**Stephen Goldsmith** (Stocks, Bonds, U.S. Coins)

**Scott Lindquist** (U.S. Small Size, Nationals)

**Bruce Smart** (World Banknotes)

**Caleb Esterline** (Stocks & Bonds)

### Mark Anderson (Banknotes)

Robert Litzenberger (Autographs)

**Nirat Lertchitvikul** (U.S. & World Coins)

**Tom Tesoriero** (Ancient & Foreign Coins)

**Greg Cohen** (U.S. Coins)

## Consign Your Collection To Our Next Auction

Call 800-622-1880 or 212-943-1880 and ask for Stephen Goldsmith, Mark Anderson, Scott Lindquist or Caleb Esterline.



2 Rector Street, 12th Floor, New York, NY 10006-1844

TEL: 212-943-1880 TOLL FREE: 800-622-1880 FAX: 212-312-6370

E-MAIL: [info@smytheononline.com](mailto:info@smytheononline.com) WEBSITE: [smytheononline.com](http://smytheononline.com)

*We buy, sell, and auction the very best in Paper Money, Antique Stocks and Bonds, Coins, and Autographs*

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (*e.g.*, September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 46, No. 1

Winter 2010

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

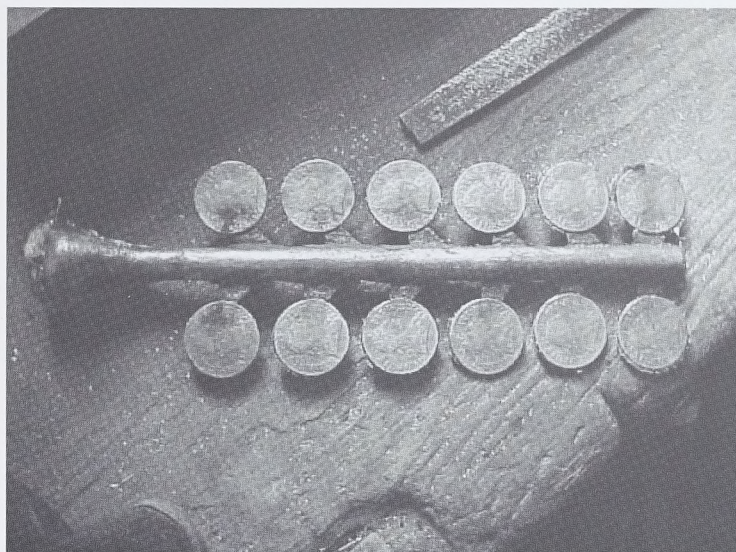
Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, *etc.*, to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Membership Application.....         | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors..... | 3  |
| President's Message.....            | 4  |
| Editor's Corner.....                | 5  |
| Wither Goes the Cent.....           | 6. |
| Young Numismatist Program.....      | 10 |
| Virginia Coin Show Planner.....     | 17 |
| VNA Clubs.....                      | 21 |
| Money \$tore.....                   | 24 |





Freshly cast  
Half Pence  
seen at an  
establish-  
ment near  
Duke of  
Gloucester  
Street in  
Williams-  
burg, made  
to resemble  
1772-dated  
English  
Tower Mint  
coppers of  
King George  
III



## VNA Membership / Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family  
☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime  
☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
 PO Box 16833  
 Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues promptly! We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: John Koebert  
(703) 435-0357

P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash

P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
email: cash2274@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays

P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313  
email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Kolos

P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328  
email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore

email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart

P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190

email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batten

PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford

PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Jim Owens

213 Millwood Ave, Winchester, VA 22601

Director: Emmett Yonce

P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083

Director: Robert Ayres

5100 Bibb Store Rd., Louisa, VA 23093

email: bobscoins5100@yahoo.com

Director: Gregg Coburn

6554 Pomeroy Ln., Bealton, VA 22712

email: tmansma082890@aol.com

Director: Chris Maniscalco

P.O. Box 6122, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

email: mancnc@cox.net

Director: George Watson

P.O. Box 1146, Springfield, VA 22151

email: georgecoins@msn.com





## *Board of Directors Message*

### VNA Board of Directors Meeting

The VNA Board of Directors will meet March 20, 2010, at Shoney's Restaurant, 2203 Plank Rd., Fredericksburg, VA, starting at 10:00 AM until possibly 4:00 PM. Topics for discussion include:

- Financial statements review
- Dues and advertising fee collection procedures
- Membership recordkeeping procedures
- Procedures manual development
- Annual convention, September 2010
- Sponsorship of regional coin shows
- Constitution and Bylaws review
- Election for 2011-2012 term
- Youth programs and activities
- Virginia coin club representatives to VNA
- Future Board of Director meetings

Please forward any new topics for discussion to George Cash (see p. 3). VNA members are welcome to attend.

Our organization will only be as strong as our commitment - George Cash

## *Editor's Corner*

As a follow-up to the Special Report in the Fall 2009 VNA Newsletter and thanks to brilliant observation and quick action by an east coast coin dealer and the police, it is believed that the coins and currency stolen from coin dealer Julian Leidman have been recovered by the authorities. The thieves were effective, but the "shill" was clumsy in showing around stolen coins to coin dealers within weeks of the robbery. A discrete call to the authorities, telephone validation by Julian of the items in question, an arrest, and searches at undisclosed locations ensued, netting recovery of the seven figure coin haul. Julian now has to prove to the authorities that he owns the coins and currency which serves as food for thought. Coin dealers in the business should have good records, but coin collectors too may need to produce documentary evidence as to proof of ownership in the event of a loss / recovery. Are you prepared? Take some time this spring to review whether you need to update your coin inventory, start a photographic record, and hold in a safe spot copies of every invoice for every coin purchased. When selling whole collections will you be able to prove to the IRS what you paid in each transaction. For collections sold at auction, the auction company is required by law to disclose to the IRS the gross income for the sale, so you would need to show what you paid to reduce your tax liability. Would your family know where your coin records are kept if you were unable to oversee the sale? Every serious coin collector should have a plan to document what they own that stands up under any eventuality, including happy events, like claiming ownership at the recovery of stolen property. "Sergeant, I can prove those nickels you recovered, despite having a mintage of millions, are mine!" "OK, prove it, Mac." "Every last buffalo in my collection was facing to the left." Looking down at the claimant, the desk officer turns one of the coins around to show him. "This ain't one of your herd, see, he's looking right!"



# Wither Goes the Cent?

By Mark Benvenuto

The year 2009 saw four new designs on the reverse of our 1¢ piece commemorating the centennial of the Lincoln design by honoring phases of Mr. Lincoln's life. Yet at the same time, debate continued back and forth about whether or not the United States Mint should retire the smallest denomination coin. The National Geographic magazine claims one of the biggest supporters of the continued use of the cent is the zinc industry – simply because 1¢ coins are now made of zinc, with a thin coating of copper.<sup>(1)</sup> Several voices in government and in the numismatic press claim that each cent we produce loses money for the United States. Instead of taking sides in this debate, let's see what might be done to preserve the humble cent by proposing plans that will keep them circulating, and keep cent production a money making endeavor.

Proposal One: Recall cents to circulation through bank incentives - This first step at lengthening the useful duration of the Lincoln cent is actually a very simple one. Institute some form of incentive to get people to hand in their unused cents. Right now, for example, Coin Star machines claim they will make your life easier by ridding you of your unwanted change, but they charge a fee. What about reversing things? For example, why not call on banks and credit unions to give any person a deposit of \$5.01 for every \$5 in cents they deposit? That should give us all enough 1¢ coins for years. A turn-in like this will also give collectors a new

wealth of “old” coins to go through for our collections. Think about it for a moment: jars, buckets, and bags of coins that have been sitting in corners, cupboards, and basements will have another chance at circulating again. That means there would be more of the older cents circulating in the channels of commerce, which in turn means collectors might end up having a field day.

Proposal Two: Aluminum cents coated with copper - Plenty of coins from a variety of nations have been made from aluminum. Some of the earliest are now more than a century old. Few of us know any collectors who assemble collections of aluminum coins made of such very light metal (but there must be some folks who do this). Yet aluminum cents may be a tough sell to the American public, despite the fact that it’s cheap, and pretty easy to mint into coins. The reason this second big step in lengthening the lifetime of the cent is a tough sell is the weight of aluminum – or rather, the lack of it. Aluminum just doesn’t give people the feeling of confidence that heavier, denser metals do. Even if they are coated with copper, as the current zinc cents are, the 0.93 gram weight of the aluminum coin will be considerably lighter than the 2.5 gram weight of our zinc cents today. But, if it comes to that, there will be another chapter for collectors of cents. Copper cents in the U.S. go back to the first U.S. Mint, and bronze composition cents first appeared in 1864. Copper coins for Virginia go further back to the 1773 “Virginia half penny” of George III, as listed in Mr. Yeoman’s, “Guide Book of United States Coins.” Copper-coated aluminum cents will add life to the denomination.



Proposal Three: Aluminum cents without the copper - If a copper-coated aluminum 1¢ coin is eventually accepted, the next logical step to keeping production profitable has to be the act of getting rid of the copper. This will be another tough one, because the coins will look like aluminum, as well as feel like it. But the act of getting rid of the copper will mean that production costs less. And when it costs less to make each coin, there will hopefully be several years more of them produced. [Editor's Note: in 1974-1975 over 1.5 million, 96% aluminum cents were struck but not released, pending Congressional approval which never came due to concerns by the vending machine lobby of retooling costs and a decline in copper prices. A few examples in the hands of Congress persons escaped the Mint's recall. The U.S. Mint knows aluminum cent production works well, having done it. Other cent compositions such as bronze-plated steel were considered. In 1943 zinc-coated steel cents were made to conserve copper for the war. Salvaged shell-case copper of a slightly off-color helped defray the 1944-1946 production cost of cents.]

Proposal Four: Plastic cents - Okay, this one will most likely be a bitter pill, no matter how it is peddled. Just stating the term, "plastic cents," will turn some of us off. After all, plastic is the stuff of tax tokens, bus tokens and such. If aluminum didn't give the user any confidence in the buying power of the coin in his or her hand, plastic will surely not. But let's stop, take a deep breath, and think about the positives of a plastic coin. We aren't talking about some low density polyethylene, or a polystyrene blend here. We're talking about high density, tough plastic polymer composites that are

used in many applications such as rifles for the military, auto parts, or "shatter-proof" plates. These materials can take a lot of pain. They can be made resistant to acids and bases, and can take a certain amount of heat, and some plastics are actually harder to break than metals. In short, there are several plastics out there that can take all the grief that metal coins currently take – and in the case of acid exposure, probably more. So, plastic cents might be a solution to keep our 1¢ coins going when the costs of all metals have risen too high.

Now, these broad steps may not seem like a lot, but taken together they could keep the 1¢ coin in production for decades, maybe even another century. Copper saved as part of these broad steps, could provide us with metal reserves for the future. In the first proposal, banks may return all the redeemed copper cents back to the Department of the Treasury for future use as coatings for zinc or aluminum cents. Even the plastic cents have some potential to be reissued as coins more than once, as they can be recycled if they become extremely worn or damaged. Taken as a whole, there is probably a lot of life left in the one cent coin that started so many of us out in our hobby. That might be worth thinking about the next time we pocket a couple of them in change.



## **NORTHERN VIRGINIA YOUNG NUMISMATISTS PROGRAM STARTED**

A program for young numismatists has been started in Northern Virginia. The latest event was held Saturday December 12, 2009 at the Annandale Coin Show at the Northern Virginia Community College campus in Annandale, VA. About 30 people were in attendance. Lasting a little over an hour, the program included a quiz about the Lincoln Cent, a presentation on the Jefferson Nickel (and the Westward Journey series), and an auction. The kids had a great time, and came away with handfuls of new coins for their collections. The program isn't affiliated with any club, and hasn't been formally named, but is a show feature that has already attracted a growing following of enthusiastic repeat attendees. Behind the program are "two guys named Wayne" – Wayne Homren, editor of the weekly numismatic newsletter *The E-Sylum*, and Wayne Herndon of Wayne Herndon Rare Coins, Wizard Coin Supply, and operator of suburban Washington, D.C. commercial shows in Annandale and Chantilly, VA.

When Wayne Homren, a longtime Pittsburgh numismatist, moved to the D.C. area a few years ago, he started a numismatic social group called Nummis Nova, and met Wayne Herndon through that group. "When I learned that Wayne ran some of the local shows, a light bulb went off over my head," Homren said. "Here was an opportunity to build another Coins4Kids program." Herndon immediately "greenlighted" the project and provided space at shows, publicity, and postcard mailings. He even purchased a computer projector for presentations.

Homren recruited fellow Nummis Nova member Jon Radel to help. Coins4Kids was started by Homren and other Pittsburgh-area numismatists several years ago under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Association of Numismatists (PAN). Now held four times year at shows in Monroeville and Indiana Pennsylvania, the events attract large crowds—the October Monroeville event had 78 kids registered; counting adults there were nearly 200 people in attendance.

Over the years Coins4Kids guest speakers have included money artist J.S.G. Boggs, two engravers from the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (Tom Hipschen and Ken Kipperman), and coin designers Joe Fitzgerald and Joel Iskowitz. “We haven’t brought in guest speakers to the Northern Virginia events yet,” Homren said, “but we’re looking forward to doing that as our audience grows.”

Homren reported on the first event in the Sunday, December 14, 2008 E-Sylum:

“When I arrived at the show around 1pm Saturday, Wayne was skeptical about whether we’d have any attendees. He’d talked it up all morning to kids at the show, but everyone seemed to have other plans for the afternoon, everything from basketball games to birthday parties. While I was prepared for a low turnout I hoped for the best. Later, Wayne’s wife Karin told me how she’d rolled her eyes as I arranged a dozen+ chairs for the audience. Well, we needn’t have worried. Wayne rounded up a new batch of kids and by the 1:30 starting time the chairs were filling up.”



By the time we got rolling it was standing room only, with about 30 kids and parents in the room. It was a great bunch of kids - thirteen boys and one girl. They were eager to raise their hands to answer my numismatic quiz questions, and had a number of great coin questions of their own. One asked whose idea it had been to start the 50 States Quarter series, and I talked about David Ganz and his efforts to inspire Congress to action. "Their questions and my prepared talk (a set of slides I prepared back in 2002 for a Coins4Kids meeting) prompted me to discuss topics as diverse as type coin collecting, coin designers, coin investing, and the new 2009 Lincoln Cent designs. One of the kids knew about the 1913 Liberty Nickel, and I digressed into the story of the missing McDermott specimen, and how my friend Eric Newman had once owned all five."

At one of the later events Jon Radel gave the presentation. By then the starting time was set to 11:00 am to better fit attendee schedules. One of the parents in attendance, Michael Hudson, offered to help in the future. Here's how Homren reported on the latest event in the December 13, 2009 E-Sylum:

"Before leaving [the Nummis Nova dinner Tuesday night] I spoke with Jon Radel and Wayne and Karin Herndon to plan Saturday's event for kids at the Annandale Coin Show. I still had to complete the slides for my presentation, which I didn't finish until Friday night. "Saturday morning I arrived at the show around 10am. I walked to the back row to speak to numismatic literature dealer John Burns, who I hadn't seen in some time. He kindly pointed out the grey

appearing on my temples. But I had no time for small talk or perusing inventory - I rushed to get our room set up.

“E-Sylum subscriber Mike Hudson was there with his whole family, as was Jon and his son Joe. We got the room set up and I gave a presentation to 16 kids and their parents - we had about 30 people in the room. Mike took some pictures. I quizzed the kids on the Lincoln Cent and Jefferson Nickel. The kids were great, and when we digressed into a discussion of mint marks, one of them not only knew Dahlonge, he could pronounce it as well!”

**‘The two Waynes’ are actively soliciting donated material for future events.**

Some dealers have already stepped forward with materials. Cash contributions are welcome as well – they will be used to purchase needed items such as better type coins and interesting items for the auctions.

“We’re just getting warmed up,” Homren said. “It’s a model we know works. Over time, some of the kids will bring their neighbors and classmates. The giveaways help get kids in the door, but the hobby itself is what keeps bringing them back.”

“I tell the parents, ‘we don’t talk down to kids here – we don’t have to. It’s a very accessible hobby. All you have to do is reach in your pocket, take your coins out and look at them, and the fun begins.’ ”

The next event is scheduled for 11am Saturday April 24th, 2010 at the Dulles Coin & Currency Expo at the Dulles Expo Mart in Chantilly, VA, near Dulles International airport. For more information, contact Wayne Homren at [whomren@gmail.com](mailto:whomren@gmail.com) or Wayne Herndon at [wh@wayneherndon.com](mailto:wh@wayneherndon.com).





Photo by Mike Hudson

Young Numismatists contemplate purchases at auction with "help" from parents



1871 U.S. Quarter Dollar with Pennsylvania "Hex" sign deeply engraved on the reverse





## **VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

### **52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION, COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

**September 17-19, 2010  
Richmond, VA**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219  
I-64/I-95, Exit 75**

---

**150+ Dealer Tables  
Free Admission & Free Appraisals  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits**

**Buying, selling, trading U.S. and world coins & currency,  
ancients, tokens, other numismatic items**

**Youth activities, Boy Scout certification, Hourly Raffle  
- Hosted by Richmond Coin Club -  
More information at [www.vnaonline.org](http://www.vnaonline.org)**

- \* Cliff Mishler**, American Numismatic Association - President,  
will speak Saturday evening, September 18 at the  
convention banquet
- \* The National Park Service** will host a booth to introduce the  
Mint's new National Park Quarters 10-year program.

**Bourse Chair  
George Cash, P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
(804) 276-5430 – [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION

VNA is looking for volunteers to chair and serve on committees for the following functions for the convention and coin show in Richmond, VA, September 17-19, 2010:

\* **Exhibits** – arrange for exhibitors, judges and awards, oversee set up of exhibits on Sept. 16, and related activities. There is already a list of potential exhibitors.

\* **Educational Presentations** – find presenters, plan schedule and arrangements for presentations, assist presenters as needed, and related activities. Some presenters are already on board.

\* **Program Advertisement Solicitation** – contact past advertisers in convention program and solicit new ads for program, acquire ad copy for use of program editor. Receive and account for advertising revenues.

\* **Program Editor** – design and compose the convention program booklet. Experience using Microsoft Publisher is desirable. Printing is handled by a professional printing company.

\* **Raffle Management** – make arrangements for raffle tickets, distribute tickets to VNA member clubs for sale, account for ticket sales before and during convention, acquire and display raffle prizes and conduct hourly raffle drawings during convention.

There are many other areas where VNA members can volunteer: registration desk, vendor move in (Sept. 16 and early Sept. 17) and move out, driving golf carts, assisting convention participants, etc. Much of the groundwork has already been laid.

There is documentation from previous conventions, and past volunteers are available to have their brains picked. All the meeting room arrangements are handled by the convention coordinator.

Please contact **George Cash** (see p. 3) for more information and to volunteer. VNA is counting on your help to make the 52nd Convention a success.

# Virginia Coin Show Planner

## MARCH 2010

### ALEXANDRIA COIN SHOW

NEW SNOW DATE: March 13, Sat. 9-5

Hampton Inn

5821 Richmond Hwy.

Alexandria, VA

Sponsored by: Alexandria Coin Club

Boots Barnes (703) 699-2360 or (733) 975-7029

E-mail: [steven.barnes8@verizon.net](mailto:steven.barnes8@verizon.net)

Website: [members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub](http://members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub)

50 tables

### WINCHESTER COIN CLUB SHOW

March 20

Travel Lodge Motel

160 Front Royal Pike

Winchester, VA

Sponsored by: Winchester Coin Club

David Sabo (540) 536-7236

30 tables

### WARRENTON STAMP & COIN SHOW

March 27, Sat. 9:30-3:30

John Barton Payne Community Hall

2 Court House Square

Warrenton, VA

Sponsored by: Warrenton Stamp & Coin Club

Emilio Castelar (540) 439-2660

E-mail: [tishcastelar@yahoo.com](mailto:tishcastelar@yahoo.com)

16 tables

## APRIL 2010

### SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB COIN & STAMP SHOW

April 9-11, Fri. 12-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-2

Weyers Cave Community Ctr.

682 Weyers Cave Rd.

Weyers Cave, VA

I-81 Exit 235, East on Rt. 256

Sponsored by Shenandoah Valley Coin Club

David Batten (540) 536-6236

E-mail: [olecrs1@yahoo.com](mailto:olecrs1@yahoo.com)

60 tables



### **CHARLOTTESVILLE COIN SHOW**

April 17

Sat. 9-7

Elks Lodge

389 Elk Dr.

Charlottesville, VA

Sponsored by: Monticello Blue Ridge Coin Club

Kara Luck (434) 295-1765

E-mail: [jim@onlinecoinshow.com](mailto:jim@onlinecoinshow.com)

30 tables

### **DULLES COIN & CURRENCY EXPO**

April 23-25

Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Dulles Expo Center

5368 Chantilly Shopping Center

Chantilly, VA

Promoter: Potomac Promotions

Paul Singleton (703) 932-9568

Website: [dullescoinexpo.com](http://dullescoinexpo.com)

200 tables

## **MAY 2010**

### **VIENNA QUARTERLY COIN & STAMP SHOW**

April 30-May 2

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Vienna Community Ctr.

120 Cherry St.

Vienna, VA

Promoter: Darren Coker (703) 444-2812

E-mail: [darrencoker@aol.com](mailto:darrencoker@aol.com)

60 tables

### **WILLIAMSBURG COIN, PAPER MONEY & STAMP SHOW**

May 7-9

Fri. 10-6, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 10-4

Lexington Hotel George Washington Inn & Conf. Ctr.

500 Merrimac Trail

Williamsburg, VA

Promoters: Barry Ciociola, Jack Leite

(919) 477-9703, (757) 822-3957

E-mail: [notgeld@aol.com](mailto:notgeld@aol.com)

### **RICHMOND COIN CLUB COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

May 21-23

Fri. 12-6, Sat. 9-6, Sun. 10-3

Holiday Inn Central

3207 N. Boulevard

Richmond, VA

Sponsored by: Richmond Coin Club

Connie Robertson (804) 651-2536

E-mail: [connie3798@comcast.net](mailto:connie3798@comcast.net)

Website: [richmondcoinclub.com](http://richmondcoinclub.com)

50 tables

### **SALEM COIN CLUB SHOW**

May 22-23

Sat. 9:30-5:30, Sun. 9:30-3

American Legion Bldg.

710 Apperson Dr.

Salem, VA

Sponsored by: Salem Coin Club

Will Camp (540) 943-2267

40 tables

## **JUNE 2010**

### **NORFOLK COIN SHOW**

June 12

Saturday, 10-5

VFW Hall

5728 Bartee St.

Norfolk, VA

Promoter: Jack Leite (757) 822-3957

## **JULY 2010**

### **ANNANDALE COIN SHOW**

July 10-11

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Northern Virginia Community College

Ernst Community College Ctr.

8333 Little River Tpk.

Annandale, VA

Promoter: Potomac Promotions

Paul Singleton (703) 932-9568

Website: [annandalecoinshow.com](http://annandalecoinshow.com)

90 tables



## SALEM COIN CLUB SHOW

July 31-August 1

Sat. 9:30-5:30, Sun. 9:30-3

American Legion Bldg.

710 Apperson Dr.

Salem, VA

Sponsored by: Salem Coin Club

Will Camp (540) 943-2267

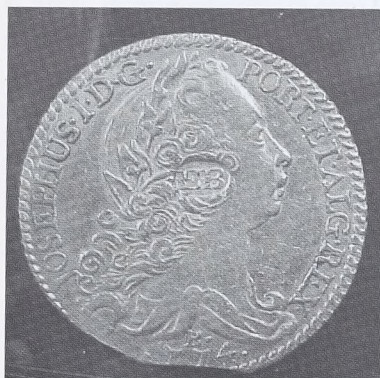
40 tables

Thanks to Susan Cash for compiling this show list.

## OLD COIN GALLERY



Top: Obverse/reverse, 1795 U.S. Half Dollar (Head of 1794, Slender Wreath) found beneath a cornfield in Northern Virginia



Bottom: Obverse of 1774 Portuguese Gold Johanna (6400 reis) of Rio de Janero with Ephraim Brasher (EB) hallmark of New York punched on the obverse as evidence of his testing, straight clip at bottom



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria,Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS. Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Thomas Wood, 1026 Main Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in thebanquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webbracceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.richmondcoinclub.com](http://www.richmondcoinclub.com)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall # 4809 on Barteet St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org)

---

TRI-CITY COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:15 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Colonial Italian Restaurant, 1 Dunlop Village, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Contact George Minson, 804-526-2939.

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meeting are held on the third Monday at 7:00PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact David Kurtz, 102 Spinnaker Way, Williamsburg, Va. 23185 - 757-345-5559

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---

WINCHESTER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Jim Barnett Park War Memorial Building, Winchester, VA. For information contact Jim Owens, 540-545-8933.

---



## Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

March 28, 2010   June 27, 2010   September 19, 2010   November 28, 2010

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free Parking and Free Admission  
Snack Bar

Sponsored by:

Carl Earl Ostiguy

CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES

P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763

phone 410-379-5646   cell phone 443-623-7025

E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:

The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin

Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:

[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**



Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak  
LM5925



Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591







## THE MONEY \$TORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Veach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Covesville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS WANTED: Chris Maniscalco, P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 831-2795. E-mail: sentrybox@hotmail.com

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

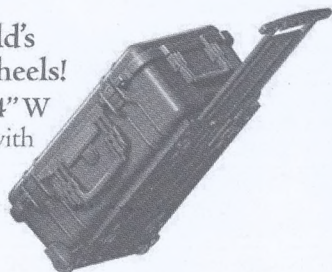
(WE BUY IT ALL ... DISCREETLY.)



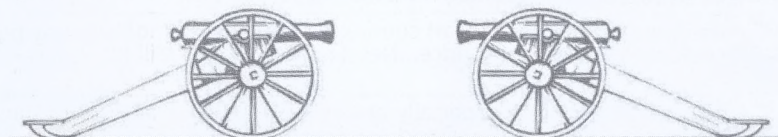
And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. (*More than 4,000 large cents in stock.*)

**NEW FOR DEALERS:** The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) - Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement (*except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5*).



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

ANA LM 3559



# GRADE & TRADE

## WITH DGS

DLRC is making a two-way market in **DGS** graded coins. Submit to **DGS** and we'll buy or auction your coins for you.

**Submit your coins to DGS for grading today!** Get a cash offer or an unbeatable auction consignment deal from David Lawrence Rare Coins. DLRC wants to buy all coins in DGS holders and is paying 80% or more of Greysheet for problem-free DGS collector coins!

**Contact us today!**



PO Box 2388 | Virginia Beach, VA 23450-2388 | Toll Free: 1-800-277-2646 | Fax: 888-719-9739 | [info@dominiongrading.com](mailto:info@dominiongrading.com) | [www.dominiongrading.com](http://www.dominiongrading.com)



VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PSRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
or Current Resident  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Spring 2010*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



1783 Nova Constellatio Copper,  
Blunt Rays, of Birmingham, England  
from when "United States" was new

INSIDE:

- \* **Yes, It Can Happen To You - Chris Maniscalco**
- \* **Summer Virginia Coin Show Calendar - Susan Cash**



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**



Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak  
LM5925



*Knowledge Integrity Responsibility*

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591



NUMISMATIC  
GUARANTY  
CORPORATION  
OF AMERICA

AUTHORIZED MEMBER / DEALER



# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 46, No. 2  
Spring 2010

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Membership Application.....         | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors..... | 3  |
| Board of Director's Message.....    | 4  |
| Editor's Corner.....                | 5  |
| Virginia Coin Show Planner.....     | 6  |
| VNA Coin Show Planner.....          | 7  |
| Yes It Can Happen To You.....       | 9  |
| VNA Clubs.....                      | 13 |
| Money Store.....                    | 16 |





## Man needs a Shave

Hobo Nickels are a great way to expand your nickel collection. Folks who will pay good money for a three-legged buffalo are just the type to invest in Hobos. Brother can you spare a dime? Well crafted Hobos turned nickels into dimes back when a dime would buy a meal.



### VNA Membership/Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family  
☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime  
☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association  
PO Box 16833  
Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues by January 31st each year. We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: John Koebert  
(703) 435-0357

P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash

P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
email: cash2274@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays

P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313  
email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Kolos

P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328  
email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore

1704 Devers Rd., Richmond, VA 23226  
email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart

P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190  
email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batten

PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford

PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356  
email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Jim Owens

213 Millwood Ave, Winchester, VA 22601

Director: Emmett Yonce

P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083

Director: Robert Ayres

5100 Bibb Store Rd., Louisa, VA 23093

email: bobscoins5100@yahoo.com

Director: Gregg Coburn

6554 Pomeroy Ln., Bealton, VA 22712

email: tmansma082890@aol.com

Director: Chris Maniscalco

P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

email: mancn@cox.net

Director: George Watson

P.O. Box 1146, Springfield, VA 22151

email: georgecoins@msn.com





## *Board of Directors Message*

# ATTENTION VNA MEMBERS

It is time for nominations for the leadership of the Virginia Numismatic Association for the next two years. Positions are:

- President,
- Vice President,
- Secretary,
- Treasurer, and
- Directors (Five are needed).

If you are interested in running for any of these offices or would like to nominate a VNA member, please send your nominations to the address below for arrival no later than June 30.

VNA

PO Box 74775

Richmond, VA 23236

Your input is desired and greatly appreciated



KEEP VNA ON CENTER

Volunteer!

1828 Half Cent 50% Off center

## *Editor's Corner*

Your editor began collecting coins in 1965, back when buffalo nickels, mercury dimes and dateless flying eagle quarters were pocket change. The April 5, 2010 "Coin World" began a series of retrospectives on our hobby by decade, starting with the 1960s "A Decade of Monumental Change." I remember 1965 was a pivotal year marked by a nationwide coin shortage, elimination of 90% silver, suppression of mint marks, and even a freeze on dates so that sufficient "uninteresting" clad coinage could flood the market and not be hoarded by evil coin collectors. Of course we were hoarding the old silver coins and not clad. Just over three decades earlier, gold had been removed from coinage and hoarding outlawed. Those who remembered how gold jumped to \$35 an ounce knew what to do about disappearing silver. By 1968, searching each roll of dimes yielded about four silvers among the clad, and once in a long while mercury dimes still showed up. Being just a kid, I didn't have money enough to save half dollars. By the early 1970's, silver metal prices would jump silver coins to better than one and a half times their face value. This was as good as having money in the bank earning interest. Remaining holes in those blue "Whitman" folders started me as a coin collector, having graduated from a grade school metals speculator. When gold disappeared there were less than 800,000 coin collectors in America. When silver disappeared there were eight million collectors, meaning for each pre-1933 coin (of fixed supply) ten collectors were now in competition for what once was common. Looking back at Volume 1, #2, "Coinage" Magazine of Spring, 1965, BU roll collecting was all the rage. The article "Investing in Coins – Fortune or Fallacy?" wondered whether coin speculators would corner the market on rare coins and artificially drive up prices to bubble or bust. The B. Max Mehl Company offered sage advice to new coin investors, to buy what is popular, of low mintage and what shows a steady but gradual price increase. Slabs were unheard of so that collectors had to know about grading. Looking backward on those decades of coin collecting with perfect hindsight is easy. I challenge the VNA readers to offer their learned and valuable collective wisdom to young numismatists. In the style of Edward Bellamy, who in 1887, wrote a fictional history looking backward from the year 2000, what wisdom might you offer for "Looking Backward – 2055 to 2010 a Mid-Century Coin Collector's Reminiscences"? Will we be remembering back to a strange old world when clad and zinc coins circulated by hand, quaint tangibles long gone from a world of e-Commerce?



# VIRGINIA COIN SHOWS SUMMER

## ANNANDALE COIN SHOW

July 10-11

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Northern Virginia Community College

Ernst Community Cultural Ctr.

8333 Little River Tpk.

Annandale, VA

Promoter: Potomac Promotions

Paul Singleton (703) 932-9568

Website: annandalecoinshow.com

90 tables

## SALEM COIN CLUB SHOW

July 31-August 1

Sat. 9:30-5:30, Sun. 9:30-3

American Legion Bldg.

710 Apperson Dr.

Salem, VA

Sponsored by: Salem Coin Club

Will Camp (540) 943-2267

40 tables

## ORGINIAL COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

August 7-8

Sat. & Sun. 10-6

Stratford Courtyard Conference Ctr.

149 Old Piney Forest Rd.

Danville, VA

Promoter: Rare Coins of Raleigh

(919) 790-8544

E-mail: rarecoins@bellsouth.net

Website: rarecoinsofraleigh.com

## VIENNA QUARTERLY COIN & STAMP SHOW

August 7-8

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Vienna Community Ctr.

120 Cherry St.

Vienna, VA

Promoter: Darren Coker (703) 444-2812

E-mail: darrencoker@aol.com

60 tables

## BLUE RIDGE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIA- TION CONVENTION

August 20-22

Fri. & Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-3

Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention  
Ctr.

2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd. Dalton, GA

Sponsored by:

Blue Ridge Numismatic Association

Bob Hurst (321) 383-1742

E-mail: forvm@clf.rr.com

Website: brna.org

## CHARLOTTESVILLE COIN SHOW

August 21

Sat. 9-5

Elks Lodge

389 Elk Dr.

Charlottesville, VA

Sponsored by:

Monticello Blue Ridge Coin Club

Robert Ayres, (540) 967-9740

E-mail: jim@onlinecoinshow.com

30 tables

## NORFOLK COIN SHOW

September 11

Saturday, 10-5

VFW Hall

5728 Bartee St.

Norfolk, VA

Promoter: Jack Leite (757) 822-3957

Thanks to Susan Cash for compiling  
this show list.



## **VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION**

### **52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION, COIN & CURRENCY SHOW**

**September 17-19, 2010  
Richmond, VA**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd St., Richmond, VA 23219  
I-64/I-95, Exit 75**

---

**150+ Dealer Tables  
Free Admission & Free Appraisals  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits**

**Buying, selling, trading U.S. and world coins & currency,  
antients, tokens, other numismatic items**

**Youth activities, Boy Scout certification, Hourly Raffle  
- Hosted by Richmond Coin Club -  
More information at [www.vnaonline.org](http://www.vnaonline.org)**

- \* Cliff Mishler**, American Numismatic Association - President,  
will speak Saturday evening, September 18 at the  
convention banquet
- \* The National Park Service** will host a booth to introduce the  
Mint's new National Park Quarters 10-year program.

**Bourse Chair  
George Cash, P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
(804) 276-5430 – [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 52nd ANNUAL CONVENTION

VNA is looking for volunteers to chair and serve on committees for the following functions for the convention and coin show in Richmond, VA, September 17-19, 2010:

\* **Exhibits** – arrange for exhibitors, judges and awards, oversee set up of exhibits on Sept. 16, and related activities. There is already a list of potential exhibitors.

\* **Educational Presentations** – find presenters, plan schedule and arrangements for presentations, assist presenters as needed, and related activities. Some presenters are already on board.

\* **Program Advertisement Solicitation** – contact past advertisers in convention program and solicit new ads for program, acquire ad copy for use of program editor. Receive and account for advertising revenues.

\* **Program Editor** – design and compose the convention program booklet. Experience using Microsoft Publisher is desirable. Printing is handled by a professional printing company.

\* **Raffle Management** – make arrangements for raffle tickets, distribute tickets to VNA member clubs for sale, account for ticket sales before and during convention, acquire and display raffle prizes and conduct hourly raffle drawings during convention.

There are many other areas where VNA members can volunteer: registration desk, vendor move in (Sept. 16 and early Sept. 17) and move out, driving golf carts, assisting convention participants, etc. Much of the groundwork has already been laid.

There is documentation from previous conventions, and past volunteers are available to have their brains picked. All the meeting room arrangements are handled by the convention coordinator.

Please contact **George Cash** (see p. 3) for more information and to volunteer. VNA is counting on your help to make the 52nd Convention a success.



# Yes, It Can Happen to You

By Chris Maniscalco

Occasionally, we learn of an attempted robbery of a coin dealer or collector. We shake our heads in anger and disgust over such an affront, but never really believing it can happen to you. I am one of those, and I write to tell you it can happen to you.

## SCENE

Day/Time: Sunday, April 25, approximately 5 PM

### Location

Sheetz Service Station on Centerville Road (Route 28) in Manassas Park, VA

### What Happened

Break-in, 30 minutes after departing a coin show at the Dulles Expo Mart, near Dulles Intl Airport, Chantilly, VA.

I acted contrary to my usual practice by stopping at a gas station rather soon after a coin show. Didn't have to stop since I had half a tank full of gas, but decided it would be convenient since I could also visit the rest room. So I locked the car after gassing up and went in to take care of business. When I came out of the store, I noticed a pool of dark material next to my car. "Darned, the gas spilled over onto the ground. Wonder if it's on my car too." As I approached, I could tell it certainly was not gasoline, but what was it? Then, you get that sickening feeling in the pit of your stomach when you realize what has just occurred – a break-in! Glass from the shattered left rear window is not only on the ground, but throughout the interior of the car. Frantically, you search around to see what has been stolen. Happily, I discover the thief was unable to make away with anything. Thanks to a strong metal cable and lock I purchased from Steve Ellsworth years ago which I wrap through my boxes and cases, the would-be robber was faced with an obstacle he could not surmount and did not have the time to solve. So they ran off with nothing to show for their effort.



There was a witness. When he saw perpetrator break the glass, he assumed it was someone who locked his keys in the car and was breaking in to retrieve them. Only when he saw the culprit jump into another vehicle and hastily run off did he realize what occurred. He noted the car was an SUV with North Carolina plates, but nothing more. Sheetz called the Manassas Park police and two squad cars appeared on the scene. Lt Roberts and Officer Boorman recorded the information, took photos, and pressed Sheetz to retrieve film from the security cameras. They were courteous, very professional, and sympathetic.

It turns out the cameras revealed not one but two silver SUVs involved in the attempted robbery. In addition to the individual who broke the window and leaped into my car, there were three other bandits, two in one vehicle and one in the other, all described as Hispanic males. The cameras also caught the license plate number of one of the SUV's. It was registered in Durham, NC. The plates were run through the greater Washington D.C data base, but there were no violations or records of any kind. Lt Roberts informed me the information was then turned over to Durham Police Department urging them to pursue the case on their end since the break-in appears not to be an isolated incident, but the work of an organized gang which preys on dealers at coin shows. They likely have done this before and will do so again.

### **LESSONS LEARNED OR RE-LEARNED**

- Fuel the automobile the night before or morning of the last day of the show so you may drive a long distance before having to stop. May discourage thieves or give you a better opportunity to detect being followed.
- Use the rest room at the coin show right before you depart even if you think it's not necessary.

- My wife insists on buying me one of those plastic "pee" bottles. We males can take advantage of our physiological make-up to avoid having to leave our car to visit the rest room. Gas and go!

- Gas up at large, busy gas station chains like Sheetz or Wawa's where there is always plenty of activity and a very comprehensive camera security system. It didn't stop these guys from their evil deed, but too much attention forced them to give up the attempt and flee.

- And as you all well know from other stories, don't stop at restaurants. You can suffer the MacDonald's drive-ins until you get home.

### **ARMED AND DANGEROUS**

I know many coin dealers and collectors carry side arms because of the constant threat of robbery. I don't, because I figure I would be a bigger threat to myself and others around me. However, it is understandable to want to defend yourself and your property. But consider this. If I had exited the store while the attempt was in progress, I would have shouted something like "Stop, thief!!" If I were carrying, I likely would have been tempted to pull my weapon to either frighten or subdue the thief. But I would not have known that there were two other vehicles lurking with three accomplices of a possibly vicious nature who likely would have been better armed than me and intent on rescuing their compatriot. End result, I may not be writing this article plus other possible collateral damage. You have to ask yourself, are the coins worth it?

I write this article to encourage vigilance and good safe security practices, not only for dealers but also for collectors who have made significant purchases. In tough economic times, there's always an increase in economic crimes. Be careful out there!



## HELP WANTED

Mailroom / warehouse / customer service at a numismatic internet business located in Chantilly. Part-time weekdays to start. ANA/VNA membership preferred but not required. For more information contact Wayne Herndon, 703-738-4485.

## OLD COIN GALLERY



1795 Large Cent with major clip (Sheldon - 76)



1662 Willow Tree Two Pence - Found in Maryland



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 8:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria,Va 22314 Phone number 703-435-0357. Contact: John Koebert.

---

EARLY AMERICAN COPPERS. Regional meetings held at many major coin shows. Club information: Rod Burress, 9743 Leacrest, Cincinnati, OH 45215. [www.eacs.org](http://www.eacs.org)

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. For information contact Thomas Wood, 1026 Main Street, Lynchburg, VA 24504

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Thursday at 6:00 for dinner and 7:00 meeting, at the Golden Corral, 1185 Seminole Trail, Charlottesville, Va. Information: Monticello Coin Club, 301 East Market St, Charlottesville, VA. 22902.

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., Collinsville, Va. For information write to Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2213 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. For information visit the website at <http://webacceteer.homestead.com> or email [virerehaf@adelphia.net](mailto:virerehaf@adelphia.net) or write to RACC, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514.

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Richmond Coin Club. Meets at 6:00 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8131 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, VA. Annual membership \$5. Website: [www.richmondcoinclub.com](http://www.richmondcoinclub.com)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA 24102 (Happy's Bingo Room). For information, contact Emmett Yonce, 2040 Roanoke Rd., Daleville, VA 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. For information contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at the VFW Hall # 4809 on Barteet St., next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle, Norfolk, Va. For information contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org)

---

TRI-CITY COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:15 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Colonial Italian Restaurant, 1 Dunlop Village, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Contact George Minson, 804-526-2939.

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meeting are held on the third Monday at 7:00PM at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. For information contact David Kurtz, 102 Spinnaker Way, Williamsburg, Va. 23185 - 757-345-5559

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29, Warrenton, VA. For information contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at the Washington Congregational Church, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. For information write to Len Harsel, Box 2301, Springfield, VA 22152.

---

WINCHESTER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Jim Barnett Park War Memorial Building, Winchester, VA. For information contact Jim Owens, 540-545-8933.

---



## Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

June 27, 2010   September 19, 2010   November 28, 2010  
Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Free Parking and Free Admission  
Snack Bar

Sponsored by:  
Carl Earl Ostiguy  
CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES  
P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763  
phone 410-379-5646   cell phone 443-623-7025  
E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:  
The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis  
[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

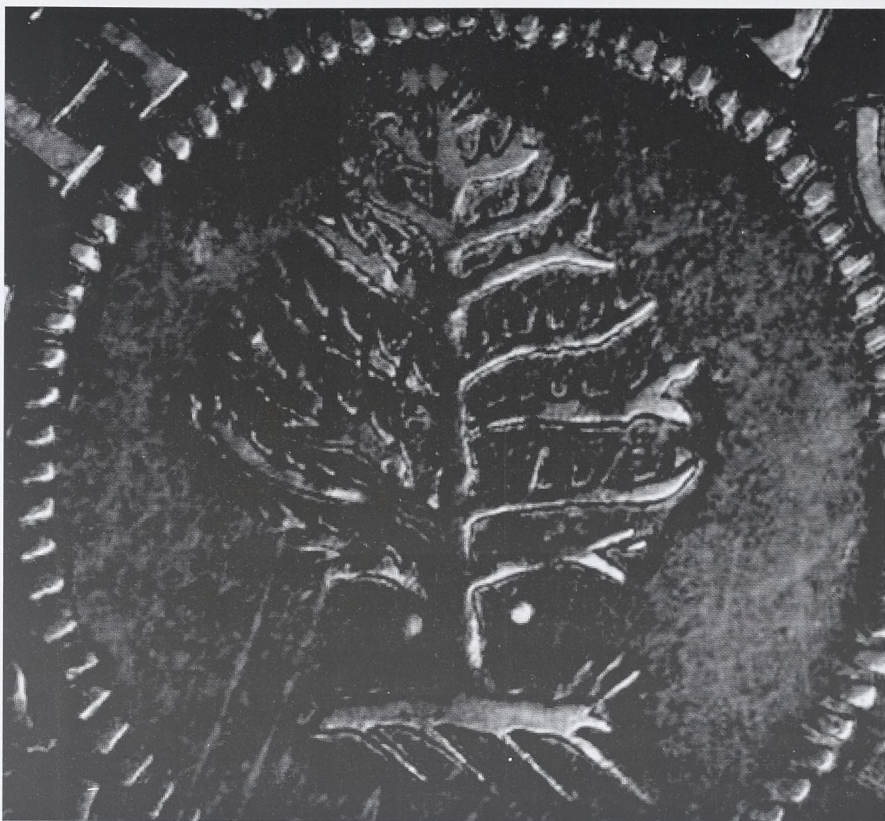
Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:  
[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)





### **HELP THE VNA SAVE SOME TREES!**

The VNA is considering distribution of your Newsletter by electronic means to save money starting in 2011. If you approve and would like to have your Newsletter emailed (in PDF format), in lieu of paper copy sent through the U.S. mail, please let your VNA President or any member of the VNA Board of Directors know of your preference.

An electronic version of the VNA Newsletter may have "hot links" to reference websites not possible in print. A story that highlights the *Top 20 Coin Websites*, for instance, might be able to take you there with a "click." Do you suppose that after a quarter century, this Internet thing just might have caught on?





## THE MONEY STORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Covesville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS WANTED: Chris Maniscalco, P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 831-2795. E-mail: sentrybox@hotmail.com

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



We build and  
sell great coin  
collections.

(WE BUY IT ALL ... DISCREETLY.)



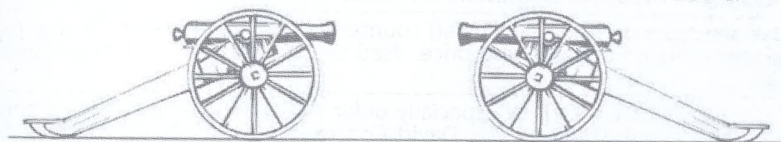
And we specialize in early American  
copper coins. (*More than 4,000 large cents in stock.*)

**NEW FOR DEALERS: The World's  
Finest Coin Carrying Case with Wheels!**

Largest Legal Airline Carry-on (22" L x 14" W  
x 9" D) - Double heavy-duty throw latches with  
double lock capability. Super strong case by  
Pelican comes with manufacturer's lifetime  
guarantee/replacement (*except for shark bite,  
bear attack or children under 5*).



Special Dealer Price .....\$165 (plus \$17 shipping)



# BUTTERNUT

COLONEL STEVEN K. ELLSWORTH

P.O. BOX 498, CLIFTON, VA 20124-0498

(703) 802-0252 • Fax: (703) 830-9176 • [www.Butternut.org](http://www.Butternut.org)

e-mail: [Butternut@Butternut.org](mailto:Butternut@Butternut.org)

ANA LM 3559





VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Summer 2010*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrichment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Commonwealth of  
Virginia



1670 15 Sols of Louis XIII struck in Paris  
for France's North American Colonies

- \* VNA Convention Planner
- \* Getting Just the Best Mercury Dime - Mark Benvenuto



# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**

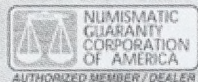


Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynn Cutler Skrabalak  
LM5925



P·N·G

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 46, No. 3  
Summer 2010

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (e.g., September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, etc., to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Membership Application.....          | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors.....  | 3  |
| Board of Director's Message.....     | 4  |
| Editor's Corner.....                 | 5  |
| VNA Convention.....                  | 6  |
| Fall 2010 Coin Show Planner.....     | 7  |
| Old Coin Gallery.....                | 8  |
| Getting Just the Best Mercury Dime.. | 10 |
| VNA Clubs.....                       | 13 |
| Money \$tore.....                    | 16 |





## Magic Coins of Old

A 1917 S Type I Standing Liberty Quarter nests within a Walking Liberty reverse half dollar shell. Magicians could make change by placing the pair, half dollar side up on a table top, with appropriate magic words they would palm the shell revealing a quarter in place of the half.



### VNA Membership / Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family

☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime

☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association

PO Box 16833

Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues by January 31st each year. We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: John Koebert  
(703) 435-0357

P.O. Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195  
email: John.Koebert@marriott.com

1<sup>st</sup> Vice-president: George Cash

P.O. Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
email: cash2274@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays

P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313  
email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Treasurer: John Kolos

P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328  
email: jkolos@chubb.com

Secretary/Webmaster: Jess Kilgore

1704 Devers Rd., Richmond, VA 23226  
email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

Director (Immediate Past Pres.): Clay Everhart

P.O. Box 2831, Reston, VA 20190  
email: ccdeverh@aol.com

Director of Youth Programs: Robert Hart

email: rlhart@cox.net

Director: David Batten

PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440

email: olecrs1@yahoo.com

Director: Walter Bradford

PO Box 233, Greenbackville, VA 23356

email: waltana02@msn.com

Director: Jim Owens

213 Millwood Ave, Winchester, VA 22601

Director: Emmett Yonce

P.O. Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083

Director: Robert Ayres

5100 Bibb Store Rd., Louisa, VA 23093

email: bobscoins5100@yahoo.com

Director: Gregg Coburn

6554 Pomeroy Ln., Bealton, VA 22712

email: tmansma082890@aol.com

Director: Chris Maniscalco

P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456

email: mancn@cox.net

Director: George Watson

P.O. Box 1146, Springfield, VA 22151

email: georgecoins@msn.com





## *Board of Directors Message*

VNA leadership met in Richmond in May 2010 to review our charter, constitution and bylaws. Last reviewed in 1994, changes to our non-profit corporation are being considered which we hope may be "put to bed" at the next Board of Directors meeting at the convention in Richmond on Sunday, September 19th at 8:00 AM in room E23-a and would take effect on January 1, 2011.

\* Shall we continue to print the names of new applicants in the VNA Newsletter?

Shall we continue to ask for date and year of birth of individual membership applicants?

\* Shall we drop the position of Second Vice President?

\* Do you know of individuals worthy of Honorary Life Membership?

\* Shall we continue to require twenty four months of prior VNA membership for those serving on the Executive Board?

\* Shall we continue to elect officers every two years or is some other time period better for continuity?

\* Shall the Vice President continue to act, or shall another officer act as Membership Chairman?

\* Club Representative Program - Ideas are sought to energize the formation of new local numismatic organizations.

Please contact any VNA Board Member and express your opinion on these or other issues with the VNA.

## *Editor's Corner*

'Here Lies Virginia, An Archeologist's View of Colonial Life and History,' written by Ivor Noel Hume in 1963 begins: "A few years ago, while plowing in the thinly populated Guinea section of Gloucester County, Virginia, a farmer unearthed a Roman bronze coin..." Old coins found in Virginia lead to all sorts of speculation about where they came from and how they came to rest in Virginia for a time. Lacking numismatic details that a picture of that Roman coin could give we can only guess about its origins. Perhaps the farmer mistook Latin legends on an English copper for roman origins? John Kleeberg gathers many detailed reports of numismatic finds in 'Numismatic Finds of the Americas, An Inventory of American Coin Hoards, Shipwrecks, Single Finds, and Finds in Excavations' to help draw a timeline of what coins were lost when. According to John Kleeberg the earliest coin found in Virginia came from a garden along Richmond Road in Williamsburg, being an English silver "groat" or four pence of King Henry VIII, Third Bust variety (circa 1526 - 1544). It was found during construction and documented by, of all people, Ivor Noel Hume, who photographed it and published the information in "Freshest Advices: Oldest English Coin Found? Colonial Williamsburg Foundation 19, no.3 (Spring 1997). Since coins may circulate for a long time it is possible coin hoards lost later may contain worn out coins dated much earlier so it is difficult to say with certainty what is the oldest coin or earliest loss for Virginia without qualifications. Coins are only clues to the past that archeologists and numismatists need to collaborate on to interpret correctly. John Kleeberg continues with reports of American coins found outside the Americas with perhaps the earliest North American made coin, a clipping of a Massachusetts Oak Tree Shilling, Noe-6, found near Bow Church, London, England in 1942 in a hoard of James I and Charles I English silver. The Massachusetts silver piece now resides with the American Numismatic Society thanks to Burdette G. Johnson as reported by Eric P. Newman.

What old coins have you found in Virginia? Tell your recovery story and share pictures with the VNA to spread the knowledge to all.





## VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION

[vnaonline.org](http://vnaonline.org)

# 52nd CONVENTION, COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

**September 17-19, 2010**

**Friday & Saturday 10:00-6:00 Sunday 10:00-4:00**

**Greater Richmond Convention Center  
403 N. 3rd Street, Richmond, VA 23219  
I-95/I-64 Exit 75**

---

### **– FREE ADMISSION –**

**Largest Coin Show in Virginia - 120 Tables – Dealers from 13 States  
Educational Speakers & Exhibits – Youth Activities  
Boy Scout Coin Collection Certification Workshop, Sept. 18, 1:00 pm  
Banquet with address by Clifford Mishler, ANA President  
Hourly Raffle for Silver Eagles and a Gold Coin**

**Electric Cart Service within the Convention Center  
Concession Stand for a Meal or a Snack**

---

**Parking \$6 all day in GRCC garage, N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. at Marshall St.  
\$35 Early Bird Admission during dealer setup, starting 3:00 PM, Sept. 16**

***Hosted by Richmond Coin Club***

***More information at [vnaonline.org](http://vnaonline.org) and [richmondcenter.com](http://richmondcenter.com)***

---

**Contact: George Cash, PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236 . (804) 276-5430 . [cash2274@comcast.net](mailto:cash2274@comcast.net)**



## 2010 VNA CONVENTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

---

### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

|          |                      |        |
|----------|----------------------|--------|
| 1 – 7 pm | Dealer Set Up        | Hall B |
| 3 pm     | Early Birds Admitted | Hall B |

---

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

|              |   |        |
|--------------|---|--------|
| 8 – 10 am    | Dealer Set Up & Early Birds Admitted  | Hall B |
| 10 am        | Ribbon Cutting Ceremony   | Hall B |
| 10 am – 6 pm | Show Open to Public   | Hall B |
| 1:30 pm      | Educational Talk: <i>Rich History of Virginia Tokens</i><br>– John Phillips | E23-a  |
| 3:30 pm      | Educational Talk: <i>The Numismatic Euro</i><br>– Jack Hepler               | E23-a  |

---

### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

|              |  |        |
|--------------|--|--------|
| 8 – 10 am    | Dealer Set Up & Early Birds Admitted   | Hall B |
| 10 am – 6 pm | Show Open to Public  | Hall B |
| 11 am        | Educational Talk: <i>Introduction to the History of Ancient Numismatics</i><br>– Doug Smith  | E-23a  |
| 1 – 3:30 pm  | Scouts Coin Collecting Merit Badge Workshop  | E22-ab |
| 1:30 pm      | Educational Talk: <i>What You Might Not Know about Buffalo Nickels</i><br>– Harvey Hinson  | E23-a  |
| 3:30 pm      | Educational Talk: <i>Art Nouveau Gold of the U.S.</i><br>– Thomas G. Wood, Ph.D  | E23-a  |
| 7 – 9 pm     | Awards Banquet (by advance reservation)<br>Keynote Speaker: Clifford Mishler<br>President, American Numismatic Association<br><i>An Overview of Hobby Community and ANA Perspectives</i> | E11-bc |

---

### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

|              |                                      |        |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| 8 – 10 am    | Dealer Set Up & Early Birds Admitted | Hall B |
| 8 – 9:30 am  | VNA Board of Directors Meeting       | E23-a  |
| 9:30 – 10 am | VNA Annual Membership Meeting        | E23-a  |
| 10 am – 4 pm | Show Open to Public                  | Hall B |

---

*Please check at the show registration table for possible changes*



## **VIRGINIA COIN SHOWS FALL 2010**

### **FREDERICKSBURG COIN SHOW**

September 25 - 26

Dealer Setup September 24, 12 pm - 7 pm

Fredericksburg Expo Center

Carl D. Silver Pkwy, I-95 Exit: #130

For info call 919-656-3265 or E-mail: Notgeld@aol.com

### **VIRGINIA BEACH COIN SHOW**

October 9-10

Hours: Sat 10-6, Sunday 10-3pm.

Virginia Beach Convention Center,

1000 19th Street, Virginia Beach, VA,

Promoter: Tide Water Coin Club at Web

site: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org) Contact:

John Kolos (757) 222-4343

[jkolos@chubb.com](mailto:jkolos@chubb.com)

### **VIENNA QUARTERLY COIN & STAMP SHOW**

October 30-31

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Vienna Community Ctr.

120 Cherry St.

Vienna, VA

Promoter: Darren Coker (703) 444-2812

E-mail: [darrencoker@aol.com](mailto:darrencoker@aol.com)

60 tables

### **ANNANDALE COIN SHOW**

December 11-12

Sat. 10-6, Sun. 10-4

Northern Virginia Community College

Ernst Community Cultural Ctr.

8333 Little River Tpk.

Annandale, VA

Promoter: Potomac Promotions

Paul Singleton (703) 932-9568

Website: [annandalecoinshow.com](http://annandalecoinshow.com)

90 tables

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 52nd ANNUAL VNA CONVENTION**

VNA is still looking for volunteers to serve at the convention and coin show in Richmond, VA, September 17-19, 2010:

There are many areas where VNA members can volunteer:

- Registration desk
- Vendor move in (Sept. 16 and early Sept. 17) and move out
- Driving golf carts
- Assisting convention participants, etc.
- Other work, as assigned

Please contact:

**George Cash** (see p. 3) for more information to volunteer. VNA is counting on your help to make the 52nd Convention a success.

## OLD COIN GALLERY



Abraham Lincoln medal struck by J. A. Bolen (JAB-31) in 1868 from "A piece of copper taken from the wreck of the Rebel Ram Merrimac in 1862 by J. F. Pratt - A.A. Surg. USA - Only ten struck" The U.S.S. Monitor and Merrimac (C.S.S. Virginia) were iron-clad ships that fought off Hampton Roads in 1862. This MS-65 piece came from the Q. David Bowers collection. The C.S.S. Virginia had been built on the hull of the U.S.S. Merrimac (which had been scuttled and burned when the Federals abandoned the Gosport Navy Yard in April, 1861), but in common usage retained its original name. Dr. Pratt having come by a piece of the ship offered a few of the medals for sale at two dollars each having made only ten examples.

This is a rare example of a "relic" medal struck from historic material. A more common relic medal from ship's copper includes those made from metal taken from the U.S.S. Constellation, the last surviving of its class of American frigates berthed at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Relic coins made from Spanish American silver captured from treasure fleets at Vigo Bay in 1702 and in the Pacific from a fleet from "Lima" in 1744 were noted in the legend of English coins made from the spoils the next year.



# Getting Just the Best Mercury Dime

By Mark Benvenuto

One has to wonder, all these years after Mr. Weinman created the Winged Liberty Head dime, also known as the “Mercury” dime, if he knew when he was working on it that he was producing what would become one of the most beloved designs in United States coinage. He was an accomplished artist when he began the design. Surely, he was putting his heart into it. But one has to wonder sometime if he knew just how big a place these little coins would have in collectors’ hearts decades after their production ended.



Whether you are the type of collector who likes to wonder, or the type of collector who likes to invest in the best coin he or she can find, Mercury dimes are still attractive silver coins, even when the price of silver metal rises. For example, \$100 can land you a very impressive Mercury dime from the earliest years of the series. We’re not talking some heavily worn piece here; we’re talking a mint state specimen. As this is being written, a 1923 Mercury in mint state – 65 runs about this much. So does a 1928 or a 1930.



Now, if you are a Mercury dime aficionado, you'll know that the price we just mentioned is for an MS-65 piece, of average strike without "full, split bands," designated "FSB" in many of the standard reference catalogues and price lists. If you are scratching your head wondering what this little bit of extra detail means, note carefully the bands on the center of the fasces on the reverse of these dimes. It represents the high point of the reverse, and is unfortunately positioned counter to the high point of the obverse, part of Lady Liberty's head and cap. Thus, many Mercury dimes were struck in which these center bands are not fully and completely split. Thus, there is a premium for FSB specimens. But, that being said, the 1923 (or 1928 or 1930) in MS-65 is still going to be a gorgeous coin. Getting your hands on one for a mere \$100 is still something of a bargain.

Now, if the idea of an MS-65 coin sounds good to you, but the \$100 price tag does not, well, alright, you're a frugal collector. There's nothing wrong with that (and probably a lot right with it). What then can you get with a mere \$20? After all, that has become the standard ATM issue of the land. How about – an MS-65 Mercury dime? No, that's not a mistake. There are several Mercury dimes that were produced to the tune of hundreds of millions of coins that can be had at or near \$20.

The 1937 Mercury is arguably the oldest dime in the series where \$20 will land you an MS-65 example. It's a common date, with 56.8 million to its tally. But it is far less common than some others within the series. The 1938 is a close second for this price range – although it does list in one prominent monthly price guide at \$25 as this is being written. If you are shopping around, you can claim that the 1938 is the less common of these two dates. But at 22.1 million, it's still screamingly common.

Interestingly, the 1941-D also costs about \$20 in MS-65, making it the first mint marked coin we can add to this series of good buys. Like the above two, it has a hefty mintage, but that's to be expected.



Believe it or not, there are a couple of 'S' coins that can be added to this growing list. The 1942-S and the 1945-S were both produced to the tune of 40+ million coins, but that means for collectors today that each one will cost only \$20 - \$25 in MS-65. In case it isn't obvious, we'll state it for the record: That's a good deal!

Okay, in case \$20 is too much for you, in case you are the type who insists on spending no more than \$10 per coin, in case you demand the absolute best for your buck and don't care who calls you a cheapskate, well, yes, there's still some excellent Mercury dimes for you. From one cheapskate to another, take a look at these dates in MS-63: the 1941, the 1942, the 1943, the 1944, and the 1945. Each of these currently list at \$9.50 in MS-63. You probably won't find them encapsulated in third party "slabs," since it costs about \$20 just to have them graded and slabbed. You probably also won't find them in a dealer bargain bin. But you will find these five dates at just about any decent sized coin show in the Old Dominion. You see, not only are they all inexpensive, they are all dates with mintage totals in the hundreds of millions. That makes them very, very common. But in MS-63, they are also very, very attractive.

If you want to go to less expensive Mercury dimes than this, to part with only a couple of dollars, to walk away with a great Mercury dime for a mere pittance, well you may end up being nominated for the coveted "N-TOY Award." That's the Numismatic Tightwad of the Year, which some organization should probably be giving out. Seriously though, we've just seen that there are some amazing bargains to be had among the Mercury dimes. Whether you fork over \$100, or \$20, or just \$10, see if you can find one of these little gems for your collection. Enjoy the hunt.



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS - Updated for September 2010

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. Contact: P.O.Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22313 [www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub](http://www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub)

---

CULPEPER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1st Monday at 108 W. Cameron Street, Culpeper, VA 22701 Contact: Thom O'Connell, (540) 829-1050

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. Contact Thomas Wood, (434) 528-0488, [coindink@hotmail.com](mailto:coindink@hotmail.com)

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Thursday at 5:00 pm for dinner and 7:00 pm for meeting, at Aunt Sarah's Pancake House, 1626 Richmond Road, Charlottesville, Va. Contact: Kara Luck, (434) 295-1765, [karaluck@comcast.net](mailto:karaluck@comcast.net).

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., 205 John Redd Blvd, Collinsville, Va. Contact: Piedmont Coin Club, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078.

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 5:00 pm on 3rd Thursdays in the banquet room of Shoney's Restaurant, 2203 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. Contact: [virehahf@adelphia.net](mailto:virehahf@adelphia.net) or [www.racceteer.com](http://www.racceteer.com)

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma's Italian restaurant, 8330 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, Va. Contact: Jess Kilgore, [www.richmondcoinclub.com](http://www.richmondcoinclub.com) or [Jesskilgore@comcast.net](mailto:Jesskilgore@comcast.net)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at Happy's Bingo Room, 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA, Contact Emmett Yonce, P.O. Box 512, Daleville, Va. 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. Contact Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932.

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at the VFW Hall # 4809, 5728 Barteet Street, (next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle), Norfolk, Va. Contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org) or [webmaster@tidewatercoinclub.org](mailto:webmaster@tidewatercoinclub.org)

---

TRI-CITY COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:15 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Colonial Italian Restaurant, 1 Dunlop Village, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Contact Elizabeth Deeb, [elizdeeb@msn.com](mailto:elizdeeb@msn.com) or [www.tricitycoinclub.com](http://www.tricitycoinclub.com)

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets third Mondays at 7:00 pm at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J. Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. Contact David Kurtz, 102 Spinaker Way, Williamsburg, Va. 23185 - 757-345-5559

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, 251 W. Lee Hwy #680, (located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29), Warrenton, VA. Contact Tony Tripi at (540)-347-2567 or e-mail [tripi@earthlink.net](mailto:tripi@earthlink.net).

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30 pm at the Community Church of Christ, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. Contact: Frank Palumbo, (202) 244-5966.

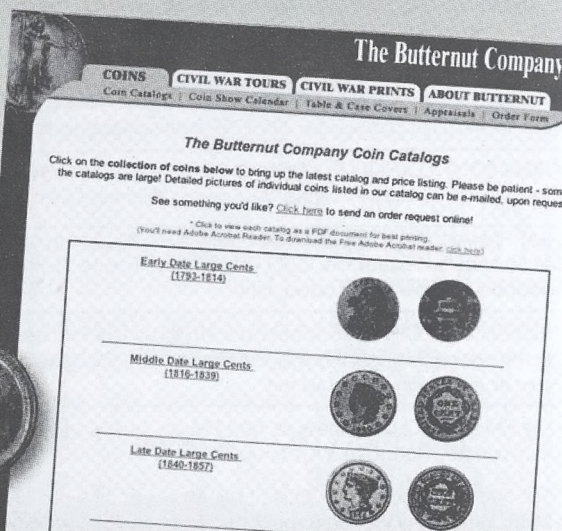
---

WINCHESTER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 2nd Mondays at the War Memorial Bldg, Jim Barnett Park, Winchester, VA. Contact David Sabo, (540) 535-7236.

---



# Our website is new, but we're not!



## www.butternut.org

***Check out our site for the best  
selections in coins***

We are a Builder and Seller of Great Coin Collections!  
Specialist in Early American Copper Coins.

### **The Butternut Company**

Colonel Steven K. Ellsworth

Post Office Box 498 • Clifton, Virginia 20124-0498  
Telephone: 703-802-0252 • Facsimile: 703-830-9176  
Email: [butternut@butternut.org](mailto:butternut@butternut.org)



# THE ANNAPOLIS COIN & CURRENCY

September 19 & November 28, 2010 **SHOW**

The Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomons Island Road

**FREE** Admission  
Parking &  
Appraisals

Hours  
9:00 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.

Call Earl Ostiguy 443.623.7025  
[www.coinshows.com](http://www.coinshows.com)



## OCEAN CITY COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

October 2-3, 2010

The Ocean City Convention Center,  
4001 Coastal Hwy and 40th Street, Ocean City, MD  
Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There will be forty Coin and Currency Dealers from Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia Buying, Selling and Trading Old US and World Coins and Currency.

Free Admission, Parking and Appraisals.

Hosted by The Salisbury and Ocean City Coin Clubs  
For more information please call Carl Earl Ostiguy of  
CEO Coins, Currency and Treasures at 443-623-7025  
E-mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)  
See [www.coinshows.com](http://www.coinshows.com)

Next year, the 2011 Ocean City Coin and Currency Show date  
is October 1 and 2, 2011





## THE MONEY STORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 400220, Las Vegas, NV 89140-022, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Coveseville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS WANTED: Chris Maniscalco, P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 831-2795. E-mail: sentrybox@hotmail.com

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*

# Annapolis Coin and Currency Shows

Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomon's Island Road (Route 2)  
Edgewater, Maryland 21037

September 19, 2010    November 28, 2010    March 27, 2011

Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Free Parking and Free Admission  
Snack Bar

Sponsored by:

Carl Earl Ostiguy

CEO COINS CURRENCY and TREASURES

P.O.Box 92, Savage, MD 20763

phone 410-379-5646    cell phone 443-623-7025

E-Mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

Hosted BY:

The Colonial Coin Club of Annapolis

[www.coinshows.com/edgewater\\_ccc.html](http://www.coinshows.com/edgewater_ccc.html)

## Central Virginia Coin Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:  
[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)





VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PSRST STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

*Fall 2010*



For 50 Years  
Dedicated to  
the enrich-  
ment of the  
numismatic  
hobby in the  
Common-  
wealth of  
Virginia



Contemporary Counterfeit, George III  
"1776-dated," English-style Half Pence  
tooled so that Britannia appears in a  
"Corduroy Jacket"

- \* **Just Two Bits - Mark Benvenuto**
- \* **Early Mint Magic - Tom Kays**



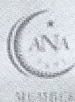
# Angel Dee's Coins and Collectibles®

P.O. Box 5234 • Woodbridge, VA 22194  
Phone/Fax: 703-580-6969 • Daily 10am-10pm EST

E-mail: [buycoins@angeldees.com](mailto:buycoins@angeldees.com)  
Website: [www.angeldees.com](http://www.angeldees.com)

**Andy Skrabalak and  
Alynne Cutler Skrabalak**

**Largest Inventory of  
Certified Small Cents  
through Nickels!**

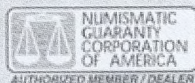


Andrew Skrabalak  
LM5926  
Alynne Skrabalak  
LM5925



*Knowledge. Integrity. Responsibility.*

Andrew  
Skrabalak  
#591





# THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST

VOLUME 46, No. 4  
Fall 2010

## ADVERTISING RATES

| Size                          | 1-time   | 1-Year  |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|
| 1/4 Page                      | \$ 12.00 | \$42.50 |
| 1/2 Page                      | 18.00    | 65.00   |
| Full Page                     | 30.00    | 95.00   |
| Inside Front or<br>Back Cover | 35.00    | 120.00  |
| Outside Back<br>Cover         | 45.00    | 140.00  |

All advertising copy must be typed or camera-ready. Send ads in c/o the magazine editor. Make all checks payable to Virginia Numismatic Association. The deadline for all copy is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding month of issue (*e.g.*, September 20<sup>th</sup> for the October/Fall issue). No ads will be accepted from minors without their parents' consent. All ads must have numismatic significance. Unusual copy requirements may be billed extra. If in doubt, write for details.

The Virginia Numismatic Association has on file the names and addresses of its advertisers. Any complaints or requests for information regarding advertisers should be referred to The Virginia Numismatic Association. The right to edit copy, to require payment in advance, and to decline any payment in advance is specifically reserved.

Signed letters to the Editor are invited from VNA members. Please include your name and address. Letters will be printed if space permits.

THE VIRGINIA NUMISMATIST, the official publication of the Virginia Numismatic Association, is published four times per year. It is mailed from Norfolk, Virginia, at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Rate and cannot be forwarded, so be sure to send in your changes of address.

Article submissions are welcomed. Send mail relating to the magazine to the editor.

Send correspondence about membership, address changes, *etc.*, to Virginia Numismatic Association, P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328.

## IN THIS ISSUE

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Membership Application.....          | 2  |
| List of Officers and Directors.....  | 3  |
| Board of Director's Message.....     | 4  |
| Editor's Corner.....                 | 5  |
| Just Two Bits by Mark Benvenuto..... | 6  |
| Winter 2011 Coin Shows.....          | 8  |
| Old Coin Gallery.....                | 9  |
| Early Mint Magic.....                | 10 |
| VNA Clubs.....                       | 13 |
| Money \$tore.....                    | 16 |





The first steam locomotive built in the United States "Tom Thumb" is remembered at the centennial of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad on the reverse of this 1927 medal by Hans Schuler, Director of the Maryland Institute in Baltimore and reproduced by the Medallic Art Company of New York City.



### VNA Membership/Renewal Application



Check one: ☐ \$10.00/Individual ☐ \$10.00/Club ☐ \$15.00/Family

☐ \$2.00/Junior (under 17) ☐ \$150.00/Lifetime

☐ \$25.00/Three Years ☐ \$37.50/Three Year Family

(Please Print)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Street or P.O. Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

(Your address information is kept confidential)

Send to: Virginia Numismatic Association

PO Box 16833

Chesapeake, VA 23328

Please pay your dues by January 31st each year. We offer regular, club and family membership discounts for paying for three years. Regular and Club members paying for three years pay \$25.00, a saving of \$5.00. A three year family membership is \$37.50, a savings of \$7.50.



## Virginia Numismatic Association Officers and Directors

President: George Cash  
804-276-5430 (h)  
Vice-president: David Batten  
540-849-9108  
Secretary: George Merz  
540-746-5055  
Treasurer: John Kolos  
757-546-7366  
Past President: John Koeber  
571-643-6590

### Directors

Robert Ayres  
540-967-9740  
Doug Bowers  
540-465-3952  
Parry Bragg  
804-652-9183 (c)  
Gregg Coburn  
540-272-1524  
Leslie J. (Jack) Hepler  
540-972-9678  
Chris Maniscalco  
757-721-5331  
George Watson  
703-425-1256  
Thomas G. Wood, Ph.D..  
434-528-0488,  
Emmett Yonce  
540-992-5331

### Other Positions

Newsletter Editor: Tom Kays  
P.O. Box 25815, Alexandria, VA 22313  
email: Thomasakays@gmail.com

Webmaster: Jess Kilgore  
1704 Devers Rd., Richmond, VA 23226  
email: jesskilgore@comcast.net

PO Box 74775, Richmond, VA 23236  
email: cash2274@comcast.net  
PO Box 604, Greenville, VA 24440  
email: olecrs1@yahoo.com  
PO Box 2397, Harrisonburg, VA 22801  
email: ciderbaron3@aol.com  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328  
email: jkolos@chubb.com  
PO Box 2966, Reston, VA 20195  
johnnyck@verizon.net

5100 Bibb Store Rd., Louisa, VA 23093  
email: bobcoins5100@yahoo.com  
681 Coal Mine Rd., Strasburg, VA 22657  
email: bottes@shentel.net  
3922 Brook Rd., Richmond, VA 22657

6554 Pomeroy Ln., Bealeton, VA 22712  
email: coburngregg@gmail.com  
803 Mt. Pleasant Dr., Locust Grove, VA 22508  
email: heplerj@juno.com  
PO Box 6122, Virginia Beach, VA 23456  
email: mancnc@cox.net  
PO Box 1146, Springfield, VA 22151  
email: georgecoins@msn.com  
1026 Main St., Lynchburg, VA 24505,  
email: coindink@hotmail.com  
PO Box 512, Daleville, VA 24083





## *Board of Directors Message*

VNA RENEWAL DUES ARE REQUESTED BY JANUARY 31st !

See Page 2 - VNA Application / Renewal Form.

The 52nd VNA Convention and Show is now sweet history. With hard work and dedication by Convention Coordinator George Cash and his volunteers, Susan Cash, Connie Robertson, Harvey Lee Hinson and dozens of members of the Richmond Coin Club with VNA Officers and Directors picthng in, the show was a grand success. Keynote speaker and American Numismatic Association (ANA) President, Clifford Mishler of Krause Publications spoke at the banquet delivering "An Overview of the Hobby Community and ANA Perspectives."

Educational exhibits on the bourse floor included "A Numismatic Journey through Biblical Coins," "Replicas of Obsolete Virginia Currency," "Small Sized Notes - The Different Seals," "United States Fractional Notes," and "Colonial Coins in the New World."

Educational presentations were "Rich History of Virginia Tokens" by John Philips; "The Numismatic Euro" by Jack Hepler; "Introduction to the Hobby of Ancient Numismatics" by Doug Smith; "What You Might Not Know about Buffalo Nickels" by Harvey Hinson; and "Art Nouveau Gold of the U.S." by Thomas Wood, Ph.D.

Next year we will hold the 53rd Annual VNA Convention and Coin Show in a new location, the Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center, 2371 Carl D. Silver Parkway. Please plan to attend September 23rd through September 25th, 2011. The Board of Directors will seek to energize the position of Coin Club Representative responsible for outreach to many VNA member coin clubs throughout the Old Dominion. As a goal it would be great if a representative visited every local coin club to bring in person the latest VNA news and to share concerns and ideas not otherwise expressed via correspondence. Contact your VNA Directors to suggest plans for a visit to your local coin club.



## *Editor's Corner*

### NUMISMATIC DINNER INVITATIONS - No R.S.V.P Needed

You are invited to dinner! In fact your social calendar is about to fill up. The first Monday of the month come to Ledo Pizza, 15335 Creativity Drive, Culpeper at 6:00 PM. On Tuesday try Roma's Restaurant, 8330 Staples Mill Road, Richmond at 5:00 PM. The second Monday of the month come to the Colonial Italian Restaurant, 1 Dunlop Village, Colonial Heights at 5:00 PM. The third Monday try Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J. Clyde Morris Blvd in Newport News by 6:00 PM. The third Thursday enjoy Shoney's Restaurant, Plank Road, Fredericksburg at 6:00 for supper. The last Tuesday dine at Aunt Sarah's Pancake House, 1626 Richmond Road, Charlottesville at 5:00 PM. After dinner your hosts may conduct a little business but expect an after dinner speaker and entertainment such as an auction and informal show and tell regarding coins. Yes you may fill many enjoyable evenings in fellowship with coin collectors across Virginia.

The Culpeper Coin Club, Richmond Coin Club, Tri-City Coin Club, Virginia Peninsula Coin Club, Rappahannock Area Coin Club and Monticello-Blue Ridge Coin Club invite you to dinner each month. Come, visit, eat, learn something, talk coins and have fun. Collectors of all types of U.S. and world coins, tokens, currency, and ancients are welcome. Check out the many VNA "dinner" clubs and try one in your area. Opportunities to exhibit your collection little by little or perhaps all at once at a show, to ask questions and get answers, share ideas and maybe read or write an informative article, bid and sell in private auctions, and to help out with numismatic education at schools, Scouts, and to find other collectors who share your interests may be on tap for dessert.



## Just Two Bits

By Mark Benvenuto

Without a doubt, the quarter has got to be the work horse coin of United States commerce today. We stick one of these pieces into just about every vending machine, parking meter, or laundrette washing machine that we see. Yes, the United States Mint produces more one-cent pieces than it does quarters, but it's the quarters that keep getting the major league use. This certainly hasn't always been the case though. The scarcity of early United States quarters makes assembling a collection a costly proposition. But there are a few different "two bits" still out there for the sharp-eyed collector. The history is all there for any collector who wants to see it. First, the term, "two bits." For those who don't know or have forgotten, the term comes from the large Spanish coins of colonial Mexico, which were often called "pieces of eight." When small change was scarce, these big silver disks – which circulated widely in the colonies that would become the young United States – were sometimes actually cut into eight, pie-shaped pieces. Two of these "bits" were a quarter. A quarter of the whole coin, and eventually, a quarter of a dollar.



But when it came to the production of quarters, these coins appear to have been almost an afterthought for the newly created United States Mint. In 1792 one can argue that the first dimes were produced (although, admittedly, very, very few). By 1794 the Mint had gotten around to producing a small number of silver dollars and half dollars, all of which are extremely valuable numismatic pieces today. But it wasn't until 1796 that the Mint churned out a single quarter.

"Quarter" cut from a "Piece of Eight" of Charles III (circa 1772 - 1789)

And while they are actually more common than the 1794 dollars and half dollars, they still total up to only 6,146 pieces, assuming all of them still exist somewhere. If you want one of these first quarters for your collection, you might want to consider selling your car to raise the money you'll need to put in a bid when one comes up for auction. If it's an extremely choice example, you might want to sell your house to raise the collateral. They're that expensive. Assuming however that you'd like to live in your house and



drive your car, rather than carry an extremely valuable quarter around (because you no longer have a house or car to put it in!), you might want to look at the next quarters – the 1804's. Yes, that's right, even after a late start for quarters, the Mint didn't get another crack at them until 1804. And, just like the first year of issue, the 1804's are incredibly rare, and just about equally incredibly valuable. By 1805, the folks in Philly did get around to producing over one hundred thousand quarters, but even those will cost a few hundred dollars today, and in low, circulated grades at that. The first quarter that truly qualifies as common is the 1835. The total mintage for these two bit pieces is listed as 1.9 million. By just about any count, 1.9 million of any item is a lot. So, what is the price for one of these common "items?" How about \$100 for a piece in fine, or F-12, at least as this is being written? That probably isn't the cheapest coin you've ever purchased, but \$100 for a quarter that is 175 years old, and that still has some design detail on it, is not a bad price. But what if you are the type of collector who wants to squeeze every bit of value out of one of your purchases? Well, if you are that person, you are – pretty smart. You are also a person who wants to look at the 1833 or the 1834 Liberty Cap quarter. You see, the 1833 was minted only to the tune of 156,000 coins, while the 1834 is slightly more common, at 286,000 pieces. Yet the prices for both, again in F-12 condition, is almost exactly that of the much more common 1835. It might take you longer to snag one of these two dates, simply because there are less of them in any dealer's stock. But patience is indeed a virtue, at least in this sort of collecting endeavor. If the price tags we just mentioned are still too deep for your wallet, you'll have to move away from these older quarters into the Seated Liberty series. The first Seated Liberty quarters were released in 1838, and by then the Mint with the help of branch mints began the business of making money in a much bigger way than back in the 1790's. Almost all of the years up until the Civil War saw hundreds of thousands of quarters produced; and by 1840 the branch Mint in New Orleans was adding to the total as well. If you want the most common quarter by far, at least in this general time frame, try the 1853. With over 15.2 million to its tally, it is common enough that almost any collector can own one. Got \$50? If so, you can add an 1853 in very fine, or VF-20, to any growing assembly of quarters. Despite there being a few very common date quarters like the 1853, the twenty five cent piece continued to struggle along for several more decades. Even when one gets to the Barber quarters, starting in 1892, there are some lean years, especially for the branch Mints. Eventually though, the quarter rose to become the centerpiece of our everyday pocket change. The next time you are at a good sized coin show, and stop to look at a proof series of Commemorative States Reverse quarters, see if you can also find a few of their older, rare siblings. It might just be the time for you to add an 1853 or even an 1835 to your collection, as a reminder of a time when a simple "two bits" was much harder to find.



# VNA COIN SHOWS CALENDAR

## Member Clubs & Regional Numismatic Associations

### FREE ADMISSION TO ALL SHOWS

#### JANUARY 2011

##### ALEXANDRIA COIN SHOW

January 15, Saturday 9-5.

Hampton Inn & Suites Alexandria  
Old Town Area South,

5821 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria,  
VA 22303. Corner of Beltway and

Route 1. Sponsored by the Alex-  
andria Coin Club, [www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub](http://www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub). Con-

tact: Boots Barnes, PO Box 8024,  
Alexandria, VA 22306, 703-975-

7029, [steven.barnes8@verizon.net](mailto:steven.barnes8@verizon.net).  
Tables: 45

#### FEBRUARY 2011

##### TIDEWATER COIN CLUB SHOW:

February 19-20.

Virginia Beach Convention Center,  
Virginia Beach, VA. Contact: John

Kolos, 757-222-4343.

##### SALEM COIN CLUB SHOW:

February 26-27.

American Legion Bldg., 710

Apperson Dr., Salem, VA.

No early birds. Contact: Will  
Camp, 540-934-2267.

#### MARCH 2011

##### WARRENTON STAMP AND COIN

SHOW: March 26, Saturday

9:30-3:30. John Barton Payne  
Community Hall, 2 Court

House Square, Warrenton, VA.

Contact: Emilio Castelar, 540-  
349-2660.

#### APRIL 2011

##### SHENANDOAH VALLEY CLUB

COIN & STAMP SHOW:

Friday 12-5, Saturday 10-5, Sun-  
day 10-2.

Weyers Cave Community Ctr.,  
I-85 Exit 235, 2 mi. E on Hwy 256.

Sponsored by Shenandoah Val-  
ley Coin Club.

Contact: Dave Batten, 540-849-  
9108, [olecrs1@yahoo.com](mailto:olecrs1@yahoo.com).

Tables: 55

##### CHARLOTTESVILLE COIN SHOW

April 16, Saturday 9-5.

Elks Lodge, 389, Elk Dr., Charlot-  
tesville, VA.

Sponsored by Monticello Blue  
Ridge Coin Club.

Contact: Bob Ayres, 540-967-  
9740.

Tables: 35



## OLD COIN GALLERY



1861 Quarter Eagle of Philadelphia with Type I "Long Arrows"  
Reverse recovered from a Civil War camp site in Virginia



1777 "Head Pistareen" or Two Reales of Charles III from Madrid, Spain, One of a small cache of high grade silver coins found together with a pair of eight reales, (2) two reales and a one real all minted prior to 1787 and found in Virginia



## Early Mint Magic

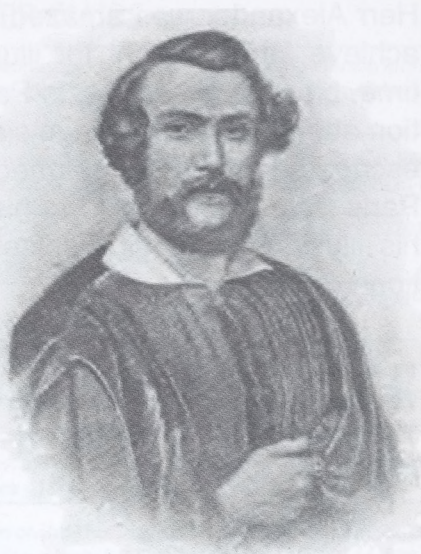
Let us remember a most deserving and eminent historical personage. Born in 1809, he was honored by a gold medal issued by the U.S. Mint and presented to him in New York. Not President Abraham Lincoln, nor naturalist Charles Darwin, who were born on the same day. Not composer Felix Mendelssohn but another man born in 1809. This man was famous on both sides of the Atlantic. While he hobnobbed with presidents and was feted by kings, Lincoln split fence rails, Darwin, as-yet-unpublished, went bird watching and Mendelssohn had already passed away. First let me tell you how this eminent fellow sprang to mind.

Going deep through the drawers of his father-in-law's desk, sealed since 1939, a friend discovered a kid leather souvenir billfold and coin wallet. Each held three items. The billfold held two \$5 promissory notes from Augusta Georgia, dated October 1861 and an 1899 Philippines five peso note issued during the short time of Philippine independence from Spanish and American rule. A relative had served in the Spanish America War and collected remembrances we surmise. In the wallet he discovered a 1925 Stone Mountain half dollar, green from long contact with leather, a well toned 1893 World's Columbian Exposition half dollar, and a rare and unfamiliar, lightly gilded bronze medal about the size of an eagle but thick as two large cents. The medal boasts a handsome portrait on one side and on the reverse the following inscription: "Presented / to / Herr Alexander / as a testimony / of esteem from / his friends / in / New York. / 1847." Herr Alexander, eminent conjuror, was as famous as General Tom Thumb by 1847. Alexander Heimbürger was born in Germany in 1809. He toured Europe to acclaim and began working the North American magic circuit. Herr Alexander's act was "boffo" at President Polk's White House fooling the likes of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster.





Herr Alexander Medalette from New York - 1847 - Miller #42a in Gilt Brass with Dies by Charles Cushing Wright This is the earliest magician's token of America



Alexander Heimbürger

With President Polk's letters of diplomatic assistance, Herr Alexander went on extended tour in South America playing the "Palace," in 1850, not a theater, but the royal palace of Pedro II in Brazil. On leaving New York in 1847 Herr Alexander was presented with a heavy gold medal cast in the United States Mint in Washington. <sup>1</sup> The bronze medal found by my friend, Miller NY-42b in copper, was a contemporary, less noble edition sold at a premium among the magician's friends to finance the die sinking and to offset the cost of the ten dollar, solid gold version of the medal presented to Herr Alexander himself. In 1903 Harry Houdini was delighted to discover this old and esteemed magician of last century; Herr Alexander still lived in retirement in Münster, Germany, with a daughter living in New York. Harry Houdini sought out Herr Alexander to talk tricks of the conjurors trade and hear stories of his astounding magic capers before royal audiences a half century ago. Herr Alexander recollected during his New York engagement, he helped out one "Orzini" an illusionist with a magic cabinet act. As an entertainer Orzini bombed with audiences at the New York Park Theater.



Herr Alexander was amazed to discover the same Orzini did achieve fame but not for illusions. He bombed for the last time, blowing himself up in Paris during a bungled assassination attempt at the carriage side of Emperor Napoleon III, who escaped dazed but unharmed. Orzini had only just arrived in Paris from America and in his effects the gendarmerie found his illusionist's magic cabinet and many unanswered questions.

1. *Carus, Paul - The Open Court, Volume XIX, 1905, Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago, P.355., from The Harry Houdini Collection – Library of Congress, via Google Books*

### 50,000 Old Coins Are Found In A Keg - from a 1902 Newspaper Clipping

Richland, Mich., Nov.8 – "A. B. Barnes of this place was the possessor of riches for forty years that he knew nothing about. While workmen engaged in tearing down his old store building were at work in the cellar they came across a keg covered with an inch of dust. The keg weighed several hundred pounds and the men opened it out of curiosity. On removing the cover they saw thousands of bright coins which at first were supposed to be pennies, but closer inspection showed them to be commercial coins such as were used during the war of the rebellion, and were furnished to merchants by private mints. There were about 50,000 of the coins, and Mr. Barnes, who occupied the store for forty years doesn't know how they came there."

Do any VNA readers know about this \$500 dollar face value hoard or have a Civil War merchant token (probably from Michigan) that can be traced back to this provenance? Having been stowed away for forty years places them in the keg, circa 1863 after which time the practice of issuing tokens was discouraged.



## VNA MEMBER CLUBS

---

ALEXANDRIA COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Wednesdays at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. in Alexandria. Contact: Boots Barnes, PO Box 1233, Alexandria, Va 22314, 703-435-0367, [www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub](http://www.members.cox.net/alexandriacoinclub)

---

COVINGTON COIN CLUB. Meets 6:30 pm, 3rd Mondays at City Hall, 333 W. Locust St., Covington, VA. Contact: Ken Headley, 830 White Oak Dr., Covington, VA 24426, 540-962-9491 Email: [kheadley@ntelos.net](mailto:kheadley@ntelos.net)

---

CULPEPER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1st Monday at 15335 Creativity Drive, Culpeper, VA 22701 Contact: Thom O'Connell, (540) 829-1050

---

LYNCHBURG COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Monday at Scarlett's Gallery, 1026 Main St. (Downtown), Lynchburg, VA. Contact Thomas Wood, (434) 528-0488, [coindink@hotmail.com](mailto:coindink@hotmail.com)

---

MONTICELLO - BLUE RIDGE COIN CLUB. Meets on Last Tuesday at 5:00 pm for dinner and 7:00 pm for meeting, at Aunt Sarah's Pancake House, 1626 Richmond Road, Charlottesville, Va. Contact: Kara Luck, (434) 295-1765, Email: [karaluck@comcast.net](mailto:karaluck@comcast.net).

---

PIEDMONT COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 3rd Tuesdays at the Volunteer Fire Dept., 205 John Redd Blvd, Collinsville, Va. Contact: Ralph Brammer, P.O. Box 418, Collinsville, VA 24078. (276)-647-7411

---

RAPPAHANNOCK AREA COIN CLUB. Meets at 5:00 pm on 3rd Thursdays at Shoney's Restaurant, 2203 Plank Road (Route 3), Fredericksburg, Va. Contact: Steve Holt, PO Box 244, Milford, VA 22514, 804-633-9337, [www.racceteer.com](http://www.racceteer.com)

---

RICHMOND COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:30 PM on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Roma Ristorante Italiano, 8330 Staples Mill Rd. Richmond, Va. Contact: C. Robertson, PO Box 791, Glen Allen, VA 23060, 804-651-2536, Email: [connie3798@comcast.net](mailto:connie3798@comcast.net)

---

SALEM COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 PM on 2nd Mondays at Happy's Flea Market Bingo Room, 5411 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, VA, Contact Emmett Yonce, P.O. Box 512, Daleville, Va. 24083, 540-992-5331.

---

SHENANDOAH VALLEY COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:30 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Mary Switzer Bldg., (Location is TBD for 2011) Woodrow Wilson Rehab. Ctr., Fishersville, Va. Contact: Doug Seal, P.O. Box 598, Crozet, VA 22932, (434) 823-8096

---

TIDEWATER COIN CLUB. Meets on 2nd Wednesdays at 7:30 pm at the VFW Hall # 4809, 5728 Barteet Street, (next to Toys-R-Us at Military Circle), Norfolk, Va. Contact Bob Hart, P.O. Box 5247, Virginia Beach, VA 23471. Website: [www.tidewatercoinclub.org](http://www.tidewatercoinclub.org) or [webmaster@tidewatercoinclub.org](mailto:webmaster@tidewatercoinclub.org)

---

TRI-CITY COIN CLUB. Meets at 6:15 pm on 2nd Mondays at the Colonial Italian Restaurant, 1 Dunlop Village, Colonial Heights, VA 23834. Contact Jim Ransom, PO Box 948, Petersburg, VA 23804, 804-691-6286, [www.tricitycoinclub.com](http://www.tricitycoinclub.com)

---

VIRGINIA PENINSULA COIN CLUB. Meets third Mondays at 7:00 pm at Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, 755 J. Clyde Morris Blvd., Newport News, VA. Contact David Kurtz, 102 Spinnaker Way, Williamsburg, Va. 23185 - 757-345-5559

---

WARRENTON STAMP & COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> Thursdays in the downstairs meeting room at Suntrust Bank, 251 W. Lee Hwy #680, (located in the Warrenton Center shopping center at the intersection of 17 and 29), Warrenton, VA. Contact Gerald Hoffman, at (540)-347-2567

---

WASHINGTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY. Meets on 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30 pm at the Community Church of Christ, 3526 Mass. Av. NW, Washington, D.C. Contact: Len Harsel, PO Box 9413, Washington, DC 20016 Phone: (703) 323-5070.

---

WINCHESTER COIN CLUB. Meets at 7:00 pm on 2nd Mondays at the War Memorial Bldg, Jim Barnett Park, Winchester, VA. Contact David Sabo, (540) 535-7236.

---



# Central Virginia Coin

Treasures Through Time

Rare Coins • Paper Money • Stamps  
Coins For the Collector & Investor  
Confederate and Obsolete Virginia Currency  
Coin and Estate Jewelry

***Honesty • Integrity • Value***

Collections Appraised/Purchased  
Over 30 years Experience



On the Historic Downtown Mall  
Charlottesville, VA 22902  
Open Tuesday – Saturday  
434-979-9172

See what we have to offer at:  
[www.centralvirginiacoin.com](http://www.centralvirginiacoin.com)



## 1832 Bust Half Dime

Reverse Die Break at "A" of "States" to rim, filled letters "N" and "S" in legend - Found in Virginia, this coin had about 30 years of wear before being dropped in the "Bank of Mother Earth"

# THE ANNAPOLIS COIN & CURRENCY

March 27 & June 26, 2011 **SHOW**

**The Knights of Columbus Hall  
2590 Solomons Island Road**

**FREE** Admission  
Parking &  
Appraisals

Hours  
9:00 a.m. to  
4:30 p.m.

Call Earl Ostiguy **443.623.7025**

**www.coinshows.com**



## OCEAN CITY COIN & CURRENCY SHOW

**October 1-2, 2011**

The Ocean City Convention Center,  
4001 Coastal Hwy and 40th Street, Ocean City, MD

Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

There will be forty Coin and Currency Dealers from Maryland, Delaware, and Virginia Buying, Selling and Trading Old US and World Coins and Currency.

Free Admission, Parking and Appraisals.

Hosted by The Salisbury and Ocean City Coin Clubs  
For more information please call Carl Earl Ostiguy of  
CEO Coins, Currency and Treasures at 443-623-7025

E-mail [ceocoins@comcast.net](mailto:ceocoins@comcast.net)

See [www.coinshows.com](http://www.coinshows.com)





## THE MONEY STORE

WANTED: Military medals pertaining to the Civil War, Spanish-American War and Indian Wars. Need Federal, State, Local and Society medals. Charles Pfeiffer, 1401 Druid Road, Maitland, FL 32751 (407) 644-0085.

ALL OBSOLETE and CSA notes wanted, especially Va., W. Va., NC, and DC. Also need National Banknotes. Thank-you. David Roberts, P.O. Box 592, Colonial Heights, Va. 23834 (804) 383-3532

WANTED: Virginia Merchant Tokens. Any city, also Maryland and Delaware; Picker, Packer Tokens. Price and describe, please. Bob Kerr, P.O. Box 3201, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

WANTED: North Carolina and South Carolina encased cents. Please write or email with description and price. Mike Capen, PO Box 10177 Chasewood Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89148, michaelcapen@msn.com.

WANTED: Pocahontas Note for my personal collection. Jim Moler, 25450 Selma Rd., Jetersville, VA 23083, jcmoler@tds.net or (804) 561-2666.

WANTED: Your Civil War, Hard Times, Merchant, or Good For token Collection, also National Banknotes. Will Travel to purchase major collections. Stuart Jones, P.O. Box 118, Belair, MD 21014, ph. (410) 893-9783

WANTED: Stocks, Bonds & fancy old letterheads you don't know what to do with. Send photocopy or sample for offer. Will answer all requests. Bob Schell, 6804 Jeremiah Ct., Fairfax, VA 22039.

WANTED: All photographs before 1950, B&W or color. Cars, trucks, bldgs, bridges, people, weddings, WWI, WW II or Vietnam. Please contact me: alandad54@netscape.com. D.A. Damron, PO Box 8982, South Charleston, WV 25303, (304) 766-8485.

WANTED: Contemporary (to the Civil War) counterfeit Confederate notes for my personal collection. Please describe and price. Ned Lea, 8704 Kings Mill Place, Raleigh, NC 27615

LOW GRADE CURRENCY WANTED: especially older types like colonial, broken bank, Confederate, fractional, US large, etc. David Consolvo, P.O. Box 153, Coveseville, VA 22931. historicmoney@firstva.com (434) 293-4371.

DO YOU COLLECT WEB NOTES? or other US currency? Send a lg. SASE & receive a "FREE" currency price list. Happy Collecting! Barry Ciociola, P.O. Box 71646, Durham, NC 27722-1646

WANTED: *Virginia Numismatist* back issues wanted and all other coin club periodicals. Harold Thomas, P.O. Box 7520, Beaumont, TX 77726-7520.

WANTED: All foreign paper money, scrip & notgeld + US MPC & CSA notes. Daryl C. Spelbring, P.O. Box 633, Vienna, VA 22183, (703) 938-7267

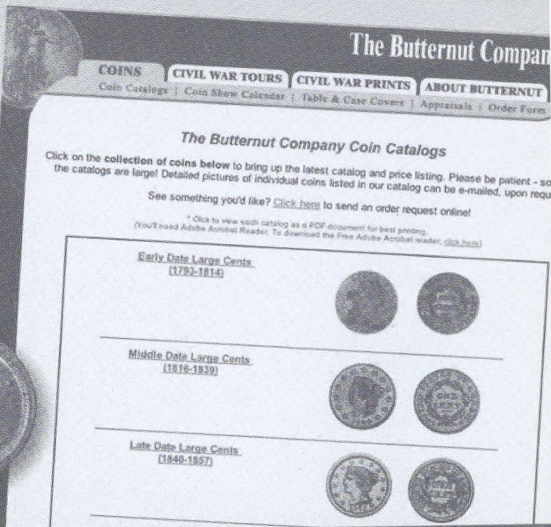

WANTED: Chopmarked coins - foreign or U.S. Military currency and related items. Ron Waddell, 100 Sailview Drive, Forest, VA 24551 email: Ronw1935@msm.com.

FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS WANTED: Chris Maniscalco, P.O. Box 6112, Virginia Beach, VA 23456, (757) 831-2795. E-mail: sentrybox@hotmail.com

*VNA MEMBERS: Send your free MONEY STORE ad (up to 30 words) to  
Tom Kays, thomasakays@gmail.com.*



# Our website is new, but we're not!



**The Butternut Company**

COINS CIVIL WAR TOURS CIVIL WAR PRINTS ABOUT BUTTERNUT

Coin Catalogs Coin Show Calendar Table & Case Covers Appraisals Order Form

**The Butternut Company Coin Catalogs**

Click on the collection of coins below to bring up the latest catalog and price listing. Please be patient - so the catalogs are large! Detailed pictures of individual coins listed in our catalog can be e-mailed, upon request.

See something you'd like? [Click here](#) to send an order request online!

\* Click to view each catalog as a PDF document for best printing.  
(You'll need Adobe Acrobat Reader. To download the Free Adobe Acrobat reader, [click here](#).)

**Early Date Large Cents.**  
(1793-1814)

**Middle Date Large Cents.**  
(1816-1839)

**Late Date Large Cents.**  
(1840-1857)

## www.butternut.org

***Check out our site for the best  
selections in coins***

We are a Builder and Seller of Great Coin Collections!  
Specialist in Early American Copper Coins.

### **The Butternut Company**

Colonel Steven K. Ellsworth

Post Office Box 498 • Clifton, Virginia 20124-0498

Telephone: 703-802-0252 • Facsimile: 703-830-9176

Email: [butternut@butternut.org](mailto:butternut@butternut.org)





VIRGINIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION  
c/o John Kolos  
P.O. Box 16833, Chesapeake, VA 23328

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSRT STD  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #196  
Norfolk, VA

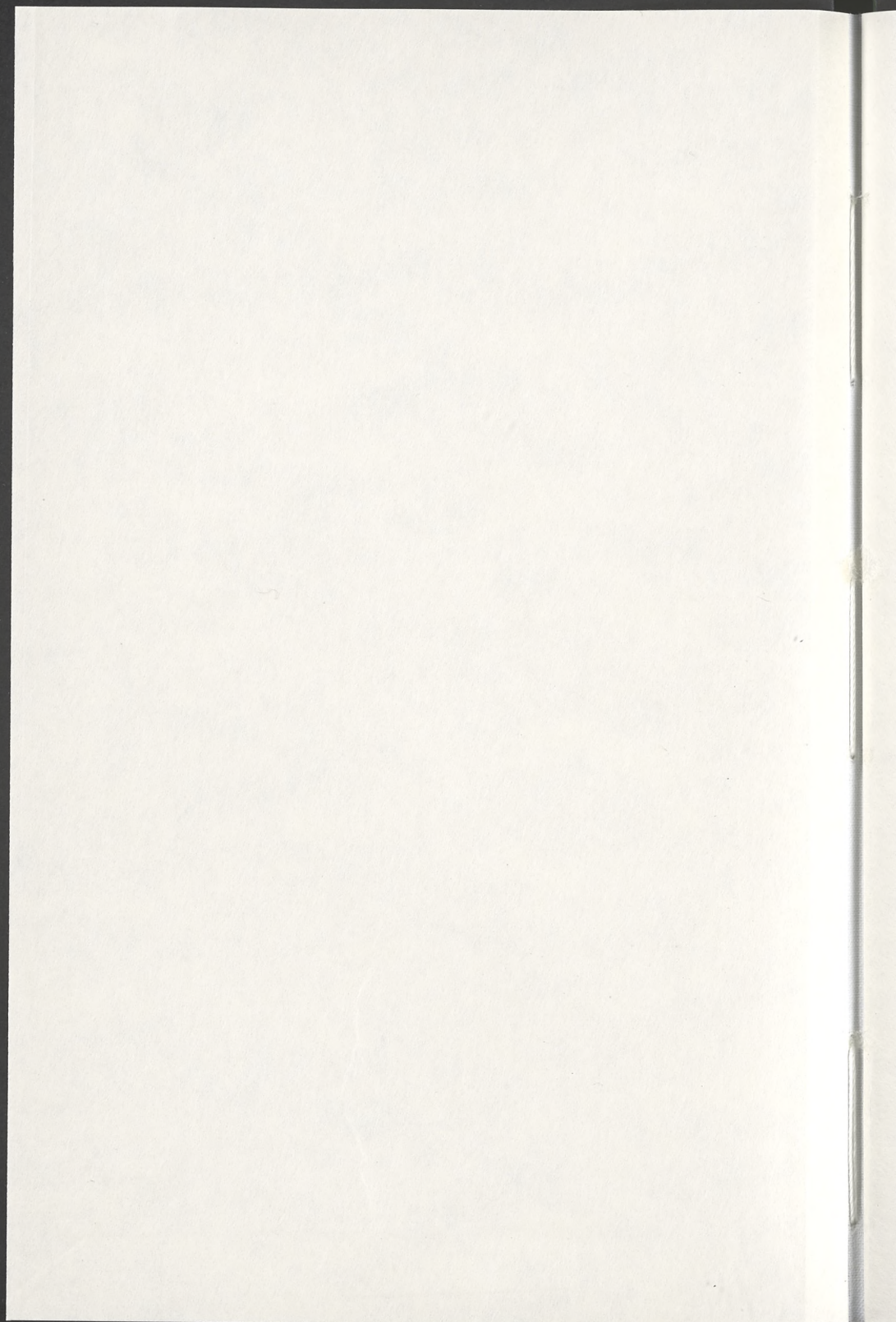
Library Of Virginia  
800 E Broad St  
Richmond VA 23219-1905

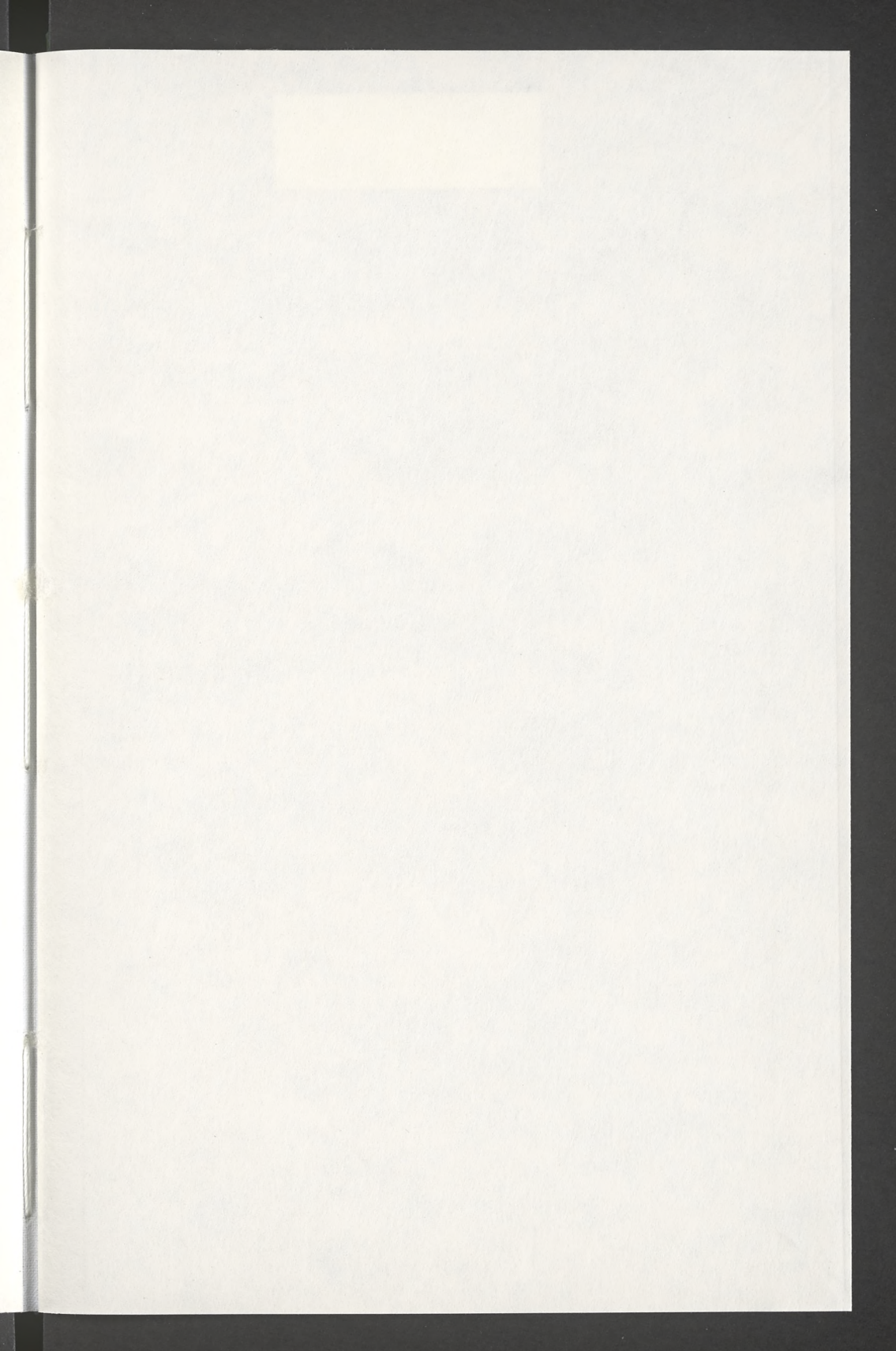


906 H79 2245  
07/05/11 14803  
Group











THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA



1000772836

